..SAHARA, ARE YOU ONE OF THE C-GENOMA?
NO, MORE TO THE POINT... YOU'RE ONE OF MY OWN BLOODLINE, AREN'T YOU?

IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE TO ME I HATE YOU--
OR RATHER, AYA MIKAGE-- NOW BRING HER OUT!
YOU SAID SOMETHING ABOUT REVENGE... WHAT DID YOU MEAN?
WHY DON'T YOU TURN INTO AYA, AND I'LL EXPLAIN IT TO YOU.
...WELL IF THAT'S SO...
WHAT A PITY, THEN... SHE DOESN'T SEEM TO WANT TO COME OUT.

WHY DO YOU LOOK JUST LIKE... CERES?!

MIORI?

CERES IS OUTSIDE!! SHIT... WE HAD HER DEAD TO RIGHTS!
RETRAIN THE CAMERA AND FOLLOW THEIR MOVEMENTS.

MASTER?!
!
I TOLD HER SHE COULDN'T JUST DO AS SHE PLEASED, BUT SHE'S COMPLETELY LOST CONTROL OF HER EMOTIONS...
MIORI...

I'LL BRING HER OUT MY OWN WAY!
WAIT, DAMN YOU!!

WHY DOES MIORI LOOK LIKE CERES IS SHE C-GENOMA, JUST LIKE ME?!
...WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
I HATE AYA MIKAGE
THIS HEAD-ACHE... I CAN'T...
SHIT...!!
AYA... AYA MIKAGE
IT'S USELESS, YOU KNOW. YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO REMEMBER THAT GIRL FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE.
WHY DON'T YOU JUST FORGET ABOUT HER?

KAGAMI SAID SHE WAS ALREADY OUT OF YOUR LIFE... BUT IT SEEMS LIKE YOU CAN'T MANAGE TO COMPLETELY FORGET HER.
...TO TAKE... WHY? I... AYA MIKAGE...?
SHE'S BEEN MY WOMAN FOR A LONG TIME... MORE THAN A THOUSAND YEARS... DO YOU ALWAYS WANT TO TAKE WHAT DOESN'T BELONG TO YOU?
AYA MIKAGE...?!
THAT ITSELF MAKES MY BLOOD BOIL... KAGAMI HAS SUCH A HALFASSED WAY OF DOING THINGS.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT...?!
WHY DON'T I CLUE YOU IN...

...NON-SENSE!!
IT SEEMS THAT KAGAMI WANTS YOUR POWERS. HOWEVER, I HAVE NO USE FOR THEM.
AFTER ALL... YOU'RE GOING TO SIMPLY DIS-APPEAR.
IT'S ALL... FAKE?!
WHEN IT ALL COMES DOWN TO IT, YOUR MEMORIES ARE THOSE OF A PERFECT STRANGER--NOTHING MORE THAN PATHETIC MARIONETTES THAT SOMEBODY PUT IN YOUR HEAD.
IT'S ALL LIES.
MANY MONTHS AGO... YOU WERE CARRIED INTO THE LABORATORY, UNCONSCIOUS AND BLEEDING TO DEATH.
WEI AND ASSAM HAD THEIR SUSPICIONS ABOUT MY REASONS FOR NOT GOING TO ATTACK YOU... AND THANKS TO YOU, SEIZING HER HAS BEEN MUCH EASIER THAN I THOUGHT.
..AND YOU'RE GOING TO LEAVE AYA BEHIND...
KAGAMI SAID THAT HE'D IMPLANTED FALSE MEMORIES IN ORDER TO REMAKE YOUR FORMER PERSONALITY... NOW, YOU'RE GOING TO JOIN US...
THIS 'TOOYA MIZUKI' DOESN'T EVEN EXIST.

THE CREATION OF A PERSONALITY IS NO EASY TASK... I'LL HAVE TO REMOVE HIS MEMORIES AND IMPLANT HIM A NEW ONES AGAIN.
I WAS GOING TO USE MIORI TO CARRY OUT MY PLAN, BUT HER PERSONALITY HAS BECOME FAR TOO MUCH TO HANDLE.
...SO...

GO CATCH HIM!
ALL RIGHT THEN...
CHIEF! I'VE FOUND CERES AND CERES TYPE-B!
KEEP FOLLOWING THEM, THIS WAY WE CAN OBSERVE THEIR ORIGINAL POWERS.

WHO AM I?!

...OUR SHISO REALLY DOESN'T KNOW WHEN TO KEEP HIS MOUTH SHUT... DOESN'T MATTER WHO HE'S TALKING TO.

HOLD STILL! DON'T RUN AWAY!!
NO DOUBT ABOUT IT... THIS GIRL IS A DESCENDANT OF MINE.
BUT WHY...?!
IT'S POINTLESS TO FLEE...
I HAVE THE SAME POWERS AS YOU, AFTER ALL...
NOW BRING AYA MIKAGE OUT...

THIS PLACE... WHAT TRANQUILITY...
CAN'T HEAR A THING... CAN'T SEE A THING...
IF I COULD STAY THIS WAY, FOREVER... I'D NEVER HAVE TO DEAL WITH ANYBODY...
I WON'T HURT ANYONE... NO ONE WILL HURT ME...
I WON'T HURT MYSELF, IF ONLY I LET LIFE TAKE ITS NATURAL COURSE...
...AND IN THE END, I REALIZE ALL IS SAID AND DONE.

QUICKLY!
AHHHH

COME OUT, AYA MIKAGE!!
YOU CAN'T RUN AWAY FOREVER!!

BUT... FINALLY I FOUND SOMEONE I CAN RELY ON...
IT WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT I MET SOMEONE I WANTED TO PROTECT...
URAKAWA

AYA, YOU TOO...
DO YOU TURN A BLIND EYE TO REALITY?

...HOWEVER... ONCE CLOSED, MY EYES WERE FOREVER BLIND TO THE TRUTH.

..I DIDN'T WANT TO LOSE HIM, AND CONSEQUENTLY I CLOSED MY EYES ON THE HARSH REALITY... TILL THE END.

I DON'T WANT TO BECOME A TENNYO... SOMEDAY I WANT TO BE HAPPY...
SUZUMI ...!
EXACTLY... I WANT YOU TO BE HAPPY, JUST LIKE ME.
NOR AM I.
BUT...!! HOW LONG DO I HAVE TO WAIT? I'M ALWAYS SO SAD, SO WORRIED!! I'M NOT THAT STRONG!
WHEN I LOST MY HUSBAND AND CHILD, I DENIED MY OWN DESTINY... HOWEVER,
NOW I KNOW THAT I HAVE TO LIVE MY LIFE AS IS, INSTEAD OF FIGHTING MY FATE.

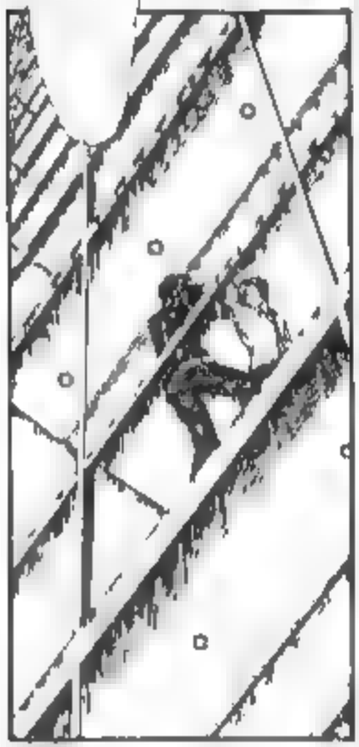
IF I CLOSE MY EYES, I WON'T SEE WHAT I DON'T WANNA SEE. I DON'T WANNA BE THAT DIRTY GIRL ANY LONGER.
IF THERE'S NO OTHER WAY THAN TO FIGHT YOU...!!
...I'M MISERABLE, AND I'M GRADUALLY TURNING INTO SOMEONE SHAMEFUL THAT I CAN'T STAND...
STILL... IN SPITE OF BEING SO SHAMEFUL, SOMEBODY LOVED ME.
HIROBE
I CAN UNDERSTAND YOUR FEELINGS BECAUSE I LIKE HIM... BECAUSE I LIKE HIM BUT I HATE HIM...

YOU DON'T LOOK SO STEADY, THERE... IT WOULD BE EASIER IF YOU JUST FORGOT HER, WOULDN'T IT?
FEELS LIKE YOUR SKULL'S GOING TO SPLIT, DOESN'T IT? PERHAPS SOMEBODY MANIPULATED YOU SO THAT YOUR HEAD WOULD HURT YOU WHEN YOU TRIED TO THINK ABOUT AYA..
!!

ARE YOU STILL TRYING TO REMEMBER AYA?

AYA...!!
...AYA...
AYA... MIKAGE...
SH... SHIT...!!
ARE THESE THINGS... THAT HE SAID... TRUE? ... WHY...!!

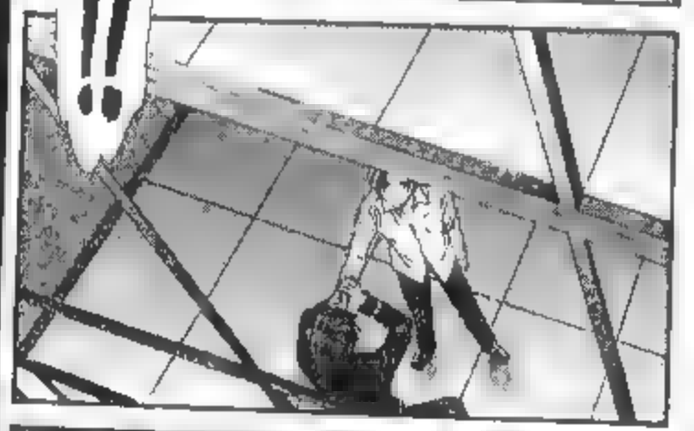
TOOYA?!



YOU WERE QUITE STRONG BEFORE BUT WHEN YOUR PERSONALITY CHANGED, YOU BECAME INSIGNIFICANT!
KU
THOSE GIRLS ARE SOMETHING AREN'T THEY?
IF YOU WERE THE SAME BASTARD AS BEFORE, YOU WOULDN'T LOSE YOUR COMPOSURE!
SUCH A FIGHT
I'LL SOLVE THE LITTLE PROBLEM OF YOUR HEADACHE FOR YOU TRUST ME
YOU'LL FORGET ABOUT AYA MIKAGE FOREVER!!

I WAS LYING TO MYSELF, AND IN TRUTH I DIDN'T REALLY RUN AWAY
BUT MY VOICE WILL BE ABLE TO REACH HIM.
I LOVE YOU

I DON'T NEED TOOYA BY MY SIDE ANY MORE.
I HAVE TO FORGET HIM! I'LL FORGET HIM!!
I WANTED TO BE WITH HIM, BUT IT WAS SO VERY HARD..



DO YOU WANT ME TO BE EVEN WORSE OFF?
WHAT DO YOU EXPECT ME TO DO?

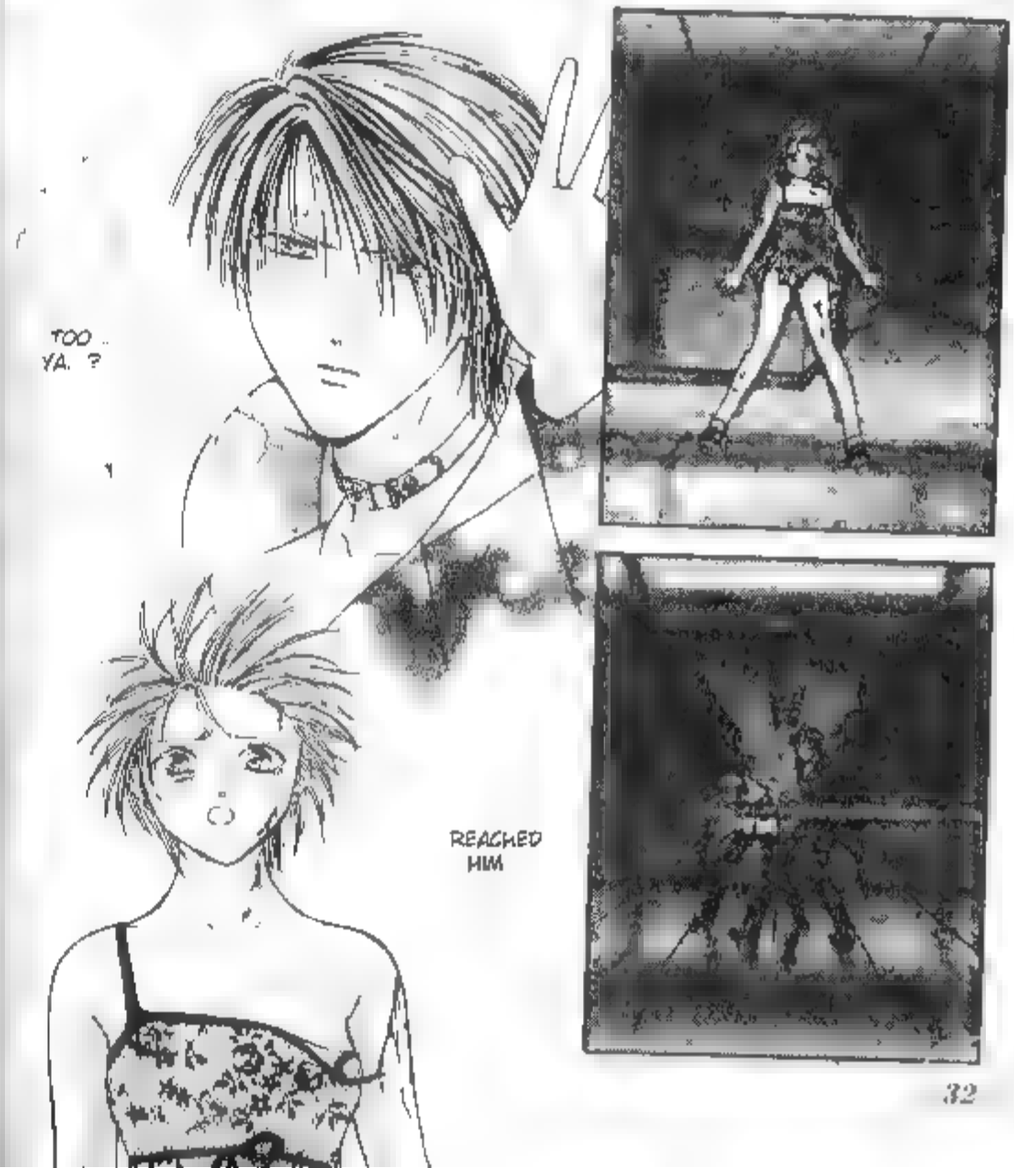
AKI
HEY, THE LIFE IS VERY EASY HERE BUT YOU FEEL LONELY, IT'S DARK AND NOTHING HAPPENS.
I WANT YOU TO STAY ALIVE IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE THINGS THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO YOU..
DON'T YOU STAY HERE FOREVER!
YOU CAN DO IT!
A. YA!
ARE YOU STILL WORRIED ABOUT AYA!!
TO THE MIKAGE FAMILY AND TO ME.. YOU'RE OUR ONLY HOPE

THOSE WOMEN ARE LIKE ME NOW EVEN THOUGH THEIR HEARTS WERE TORN, AND THEY CRIED OUT THEY LOVED SOMEBODY DESPERATELY
BUT IF I GO BACK, I'LL FEEL VERY SAD, AND WE'LL ALWAYS HURT EACH OTHER.
THE CHAINS CAN'T BE BROKEN SO EASILY, CAN THEY?
THESE TEARS.
AYA'S?!
YA
AYA. !!

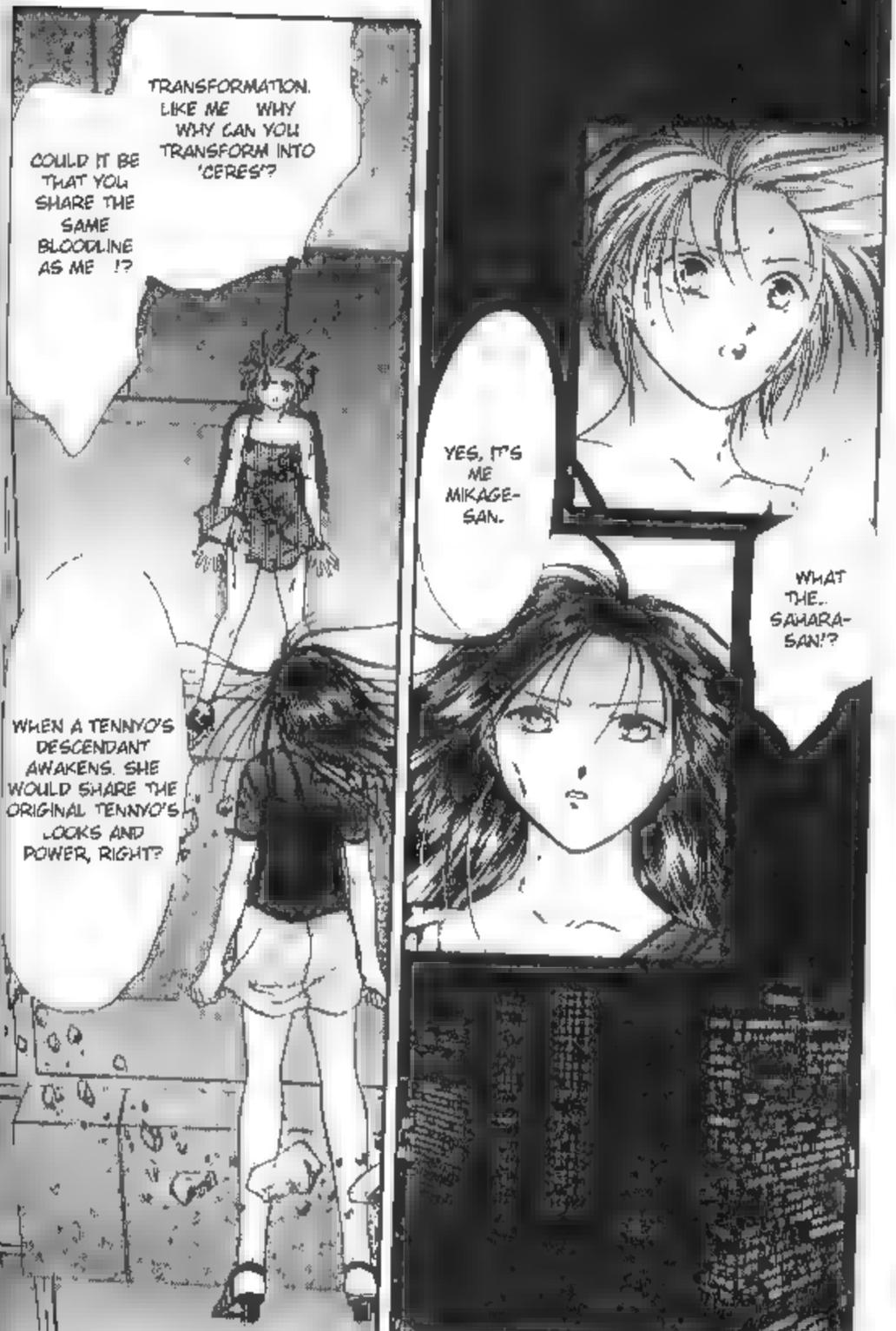
AYA
!!!
IF YOU CALL HER NAME AGAIN... I'LL OBLITERATE YOU!
WILL MY VOICE REACH HIM?
I'M GOING BACK
REALLY? CAN I DO IT?
I HAVE TO TRY, TO CRY OUT HIS NAME TO.
I HAVE TO DO IT!
I DON'T WANT TO RUN AWAY FROM ANYBODY
TOOYA

TOO-
THAT'S BECAUSE I, WHO SHARES THE SAME BLOODLINE AS YOU, IS GOING TO KILL YOU!!
MIKAGE AYA, YOU FINALLY SHOW UP
TOO BAD FOR YOU, I WON'T GIVE TOOYA BACK TO YOU!!
SAMARA-SAN !?

MY VOICE HAS..


TOO .. YA. ?
REACHED HIM

!!
AH!
OF COURSE I WOULD BECOME CERES. I'M YOUR COUSIN.
C ..COUSIN!?
WHAT !?
THAT'S RIGHT WE JUST NEVER MEET EACH OTHER. MY MOM HATED MIKAGE FAMILY'S CUSTOMS OF MARRYING PEOPLE WITHIN THE SAME BLOODLINE, SO SHE MOVED TO SHIZUOKA WITH DAD...


TRANSFORMATION. LIKE ME WHY WHY CAN YOU TRANSFORM INTO 'CERES'?
COULD IT BE THAT YOU SHARE THE SAME BLOODLINE AS ME !?
WHEN A TENNYO'S DESCENDANT AWAKENS, SHE WOULD SHARE THE ORIGINAL TENNYO'S LOOKS AND POWER, RIGHT?
YES, IT'S ME MIKAGE-SAN.
WHAT THE.. SAMARA-SAN!?

UNTIL SEPTEMBER 23RD OF LAST YEAR.
ALTHOUGH DAD DIED WHEN I WAS STILL IN ELEMENTARY MY MOM AND I STILL MANAGED TO LEAD A HAPPY LIFE
THE SAMARA FAMILY IS ALSO AGAINST THEM HAVING A RELATIONSHIP, SO THEY ELOPED
LAST YEAR. ? SEPTEMBER 23RD..
THE DAY OF YOUR BIRTHDAY!!
THAT'S RIGHT

TRADITIONAL CEREMONY? WHEN I REACH 16 NEXT YEAR, I CAN GO VISIT GRANDPA, TOO WE'LL GO TO TOKYO TOGETHER THEN!
IT'S ONE OF THOSE POINTLESS TRADITIONS PASSED DOWN THROUGH THE MIKAGE FAMILY I HAVE TO GO BECAUSE YOUR GRANDFATHER WILL BE VEXED IF I DIDN'T ATTEND THE CEREMONY DON'T WORRY, IT WILL END SMOOTHLY!
YEAH... A PAIR OF TWINS REACHED THE AGE OF 16 TODAY BOTH TWINS ARE YOUR COUSINS
MOM, YOU'RE GOING TO TOKYO TODAY?
WELL THEN, I'M GOING
BE CAREFUL!
REMEMBER TO GET SOME PRESENTS FOR ME!
SHE SMILED AS SHE TOLD ME SHE WOULD BE BACK SOON. BUT THAT NIGHT, THE MIKAGE FAMILY CALLED AND ..

KAGAMI!
HE ASKED ME TO GO TO HIS LAB. THERE HE TOLD ME THE TRUTH
I WAS VERY AFRAID SO AFRAID THAT I CONTACTED THE COUSIN WHO WAS VERY KIND TO ME
I COULDN'T ACCEPT MY MOTHER'S DEATH, SO EVERDAY WAS HELL TO ME HOWEVER, A COUPLE OF MONTHS AGO, WHEN MANY PEOPLE IN THE NATION DIED
MOM'S DEATH WAS NOT AN ACCIDENT
YOU KILLED HER!!
I FELT MY BODY CHANGING
. TOLD ME TO GO TO TOKYO'S IMMEDIATELY .. GO TO THE HOSPITAL
MOM WAS COVERED IN BLOOD... AND SHE NEVER MOVED AFTER THAT!!
BECAUSE MY MOM'S INTERNAL ORGANS ARE DAMAGED!! THE DOCTORS CAN'T HELP HER ANYMORE!!
AFTER TODAY, THIS POINTLESS CEREMONY WILL BE ABOLISHED.. THE MIKAGE FAMILY WILL TAKE ALL THE RESPONSIBILITIES. YOU CAN LIVE YOUR LIFE AS IT WAS BEFORE
..I HEARD THE OTHER RELATIVES WERE ALSO BADLY WOUNDED! AT THAT TIME, I THOUGHT IT WAS ONLY AN ACCIDENT!!

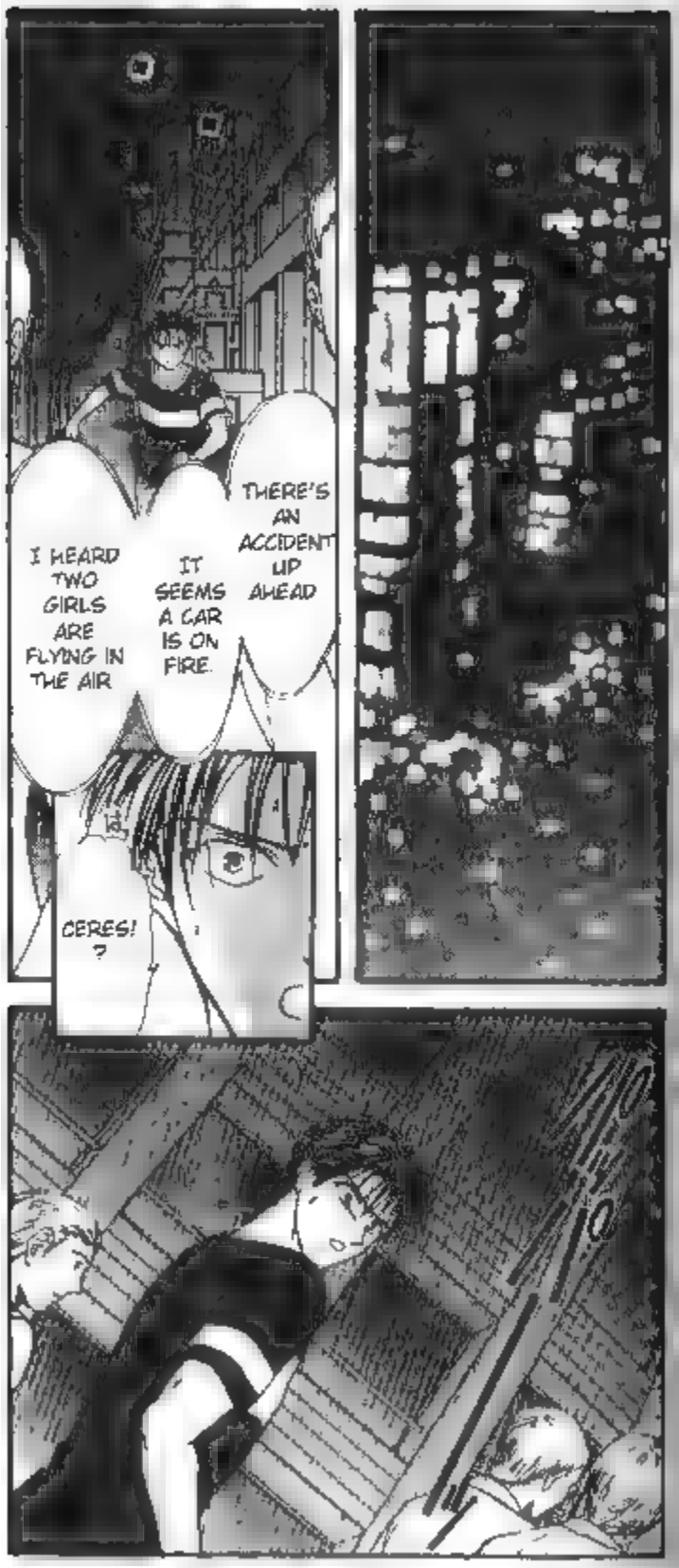
AYA!!
I CAN'T!!
AYA!! HURRY!!
GIVE ME BACK MY MOTHER !!
AYA.
THAT GIRL REALLY WANTS TO KILL ME.
TRANSFORM NOW!
YOU KILLED SOMEONE ELSE'S PARENTS. AND YOU STILL HAVE THE MOOD TO FALL IN LOVE WITH SOME GUY? GIVE IT BACK!

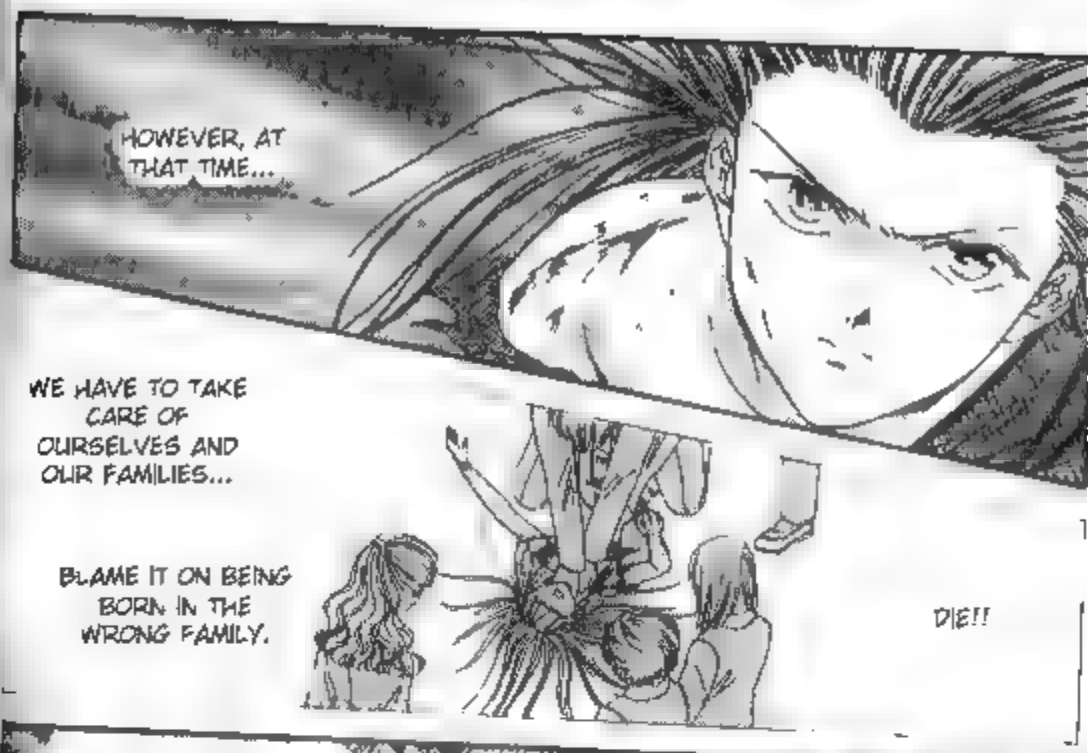
I'LL KILL YOU!!
YOU.. TWIST MY ARM..

AYA..

SHISO!!
WAIT!!

THAT DAY... MY 16TH BIRTHDAY WHICH CHANGED AKI AND MY FATE... THE DAY CERES AWAKENED IN MY BODY ..





WE HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF OURSELVES AND OUR FAMILIES...

BLAME IT ON BEING BORN IN THE WRONG FAMILY.

THEY WOULD HAVE ALREADY KILLED ME.

I'LL SEND YOU THERE!!
YOU WANT TO SEARCH FOR THE HAGOROMO? IF YOU WANT TO GO BACK TO HEAVEN SO BADLY
KILL ME LIKE YOU KILLED MY MOTHER!!
TRANSFORM SO YOU CAN KILL ME!
!!
AYA!

WHERE'S AYA!?
YOU.
YUUDHI!!
AYA, TRANSFORM NOW !! WHAT CAN YOU DO IF YOU DIED NOW!?
WHY WON'T YOU TRANSFORM INTO TENNYO?
WHAT? YOU'RE NOT RUNNING AWAY ANYMORE?

TOO YA
TOOYA WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
IT'S ALL FAKE MORI
DON'T WE ALWAYS PLAY TOGETHER IN MIKU'S MATSUBARA? WE SHARE OUR FIRST KISS AT THE BEACH THERE THE STARS WERE BEAUTIFUL RIGHT?
ARE ALL FAKE...!
YOU TOLD ME I LOVE YOU SO MANY TIMES.
MY PAST MY IDENTITY AS MIZUKI AND ALL MY MEMORIES WITH YOU.
HUH.

AYA.
GOOD FOR YOU. TOOYA RETURNS TO YOUR SIDE
HOWEVER. I WON'T ALLOW IT. I WILL HAVE MY REVENGE I'LL MAKE YOU..
TOO. YA.
I DID WANT TO TORTURE AYA BY TAKING YOU AWAY FROM HER! BUT. BUT THAT'S NOT THE ONLY REASON. DIDN'T YOU ALWAYS WANT TO HAVE A PAST?
SO WE CAN LIVE HAPPILY TOGETHER
STOP!!
EVEN IN THE FALSE WORLD. I CAN'T FALL IN LOVE WITH YOU!!
IT'S NO USE. MIORI.
WHY CAN'T YOU FORGET ABOUT HER..?
IS SHE REALLY THAT GOOD..?
WE HELPED YOU WITH YOUR WISHES, SO I HOPE YOU CAN GO THROUGH WITH THE PROMISE TO HELP US. CERES TYPE-B.
MIORI, HE'S TOOYA, AYA'S CURRENT BOYFRIEND.

MIORI !!

HUH? BUT
YOU'RE RIGHT !!
AHH, ISN'T THAT AYA!?
WHAT!?

HUH!?

THERE! UP THERE! ISN'T THAT CERES!?
WHAT'S WRONG? CHIDORI?

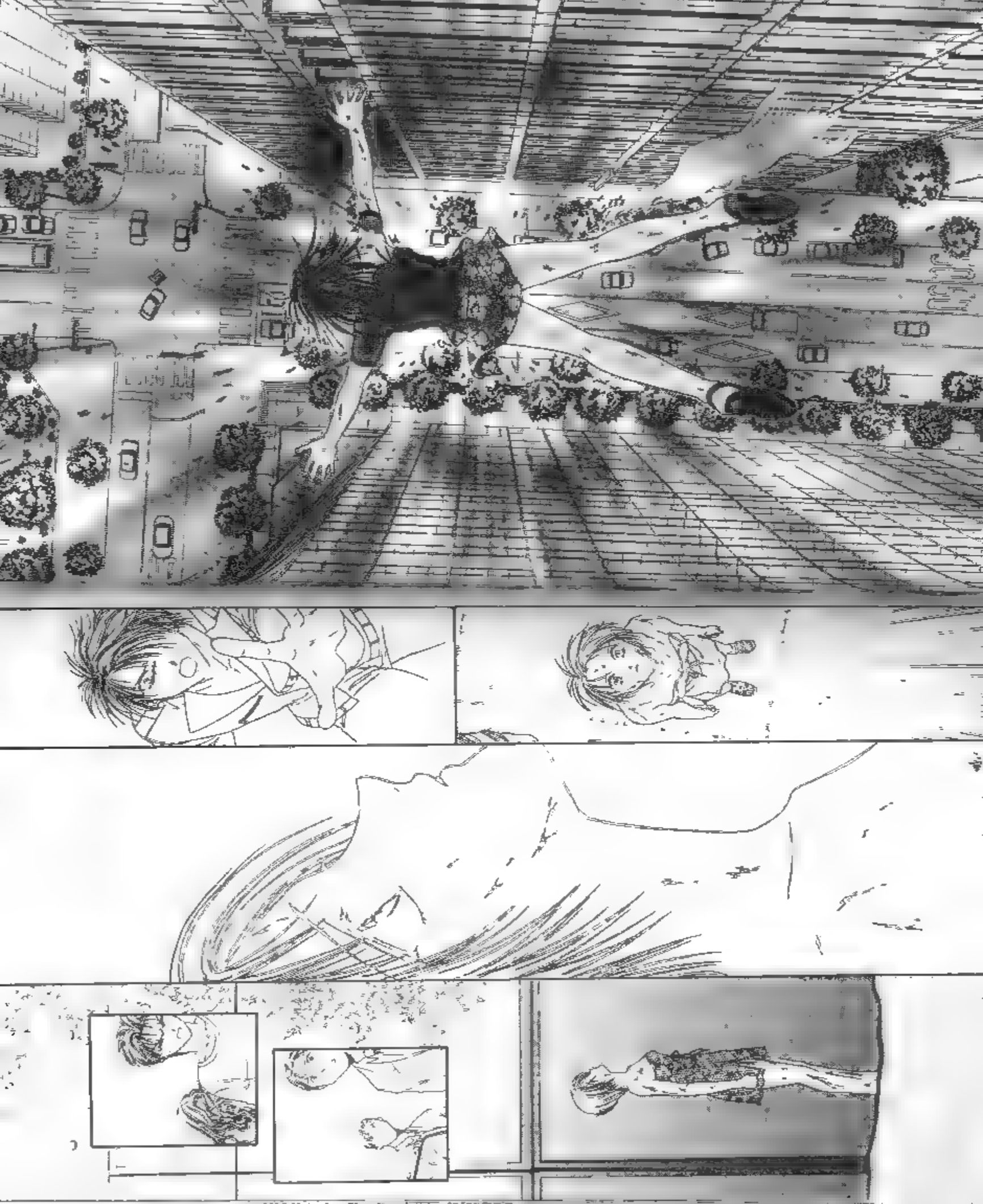
!!
MIORI!?

RUN AWAY!
RUN AWAY BEFORE MIKAGE'S MEN ARRIVE!

TOOYA.
UP THERE!

TOOYA
MIORI!!
I'M SO HAPPY YOU COME TO CHASE ME
DON'T DO IT!!

SAHARA-SAN!?
I'M STARTING MY REVENGE NOW
MOTHER. PLEASE LOOK CAREFULLY

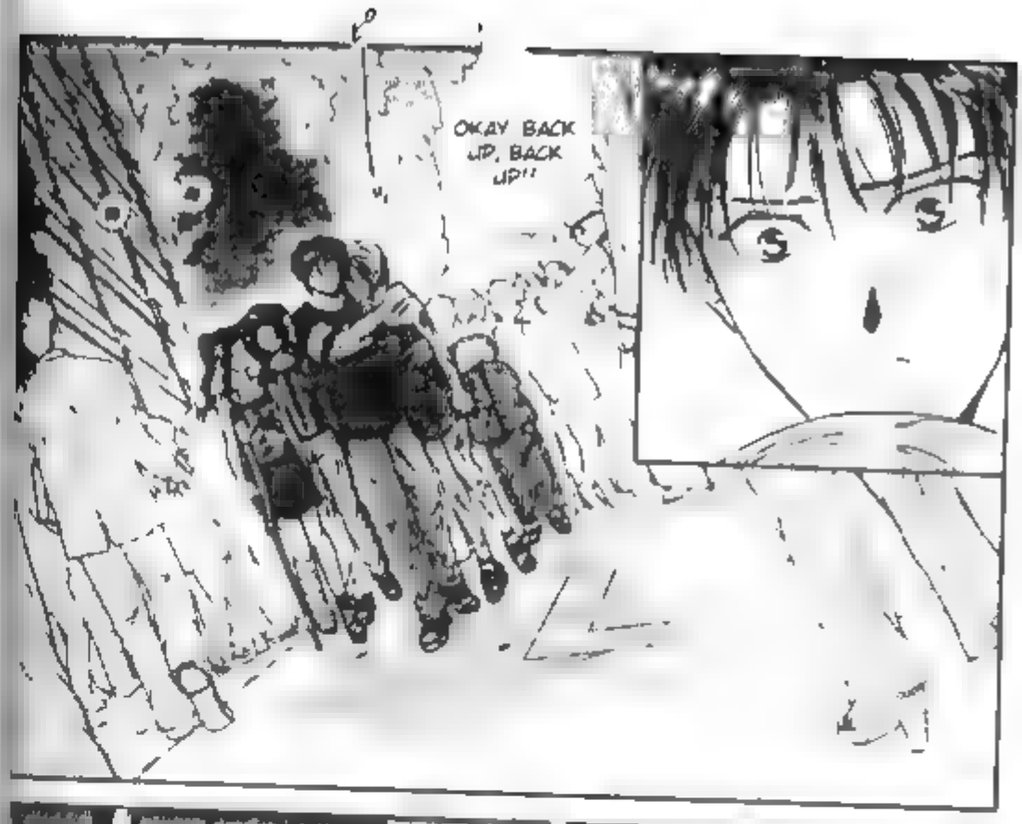


WHY!!
...A GIR... FALLING FROM THE BUILDING!!
DON'T LOOK!!
W WHY ?
SUCIDIE!?
DON'T LOOK!!

TO WIN, I'LL DO ANYTHING TO SURVIVE..!!
THE ONLY WINNER IS THE ONE WHO SURVIVED
I WON'T GIVE TOOYA BACK TO YOU!
HOW CRUEL... TO USE THIS...THIS METHOD TO...
BREAK US APART!!
CUT THE IMAGE
CHIEF
STUPID. WOMAN
SHE WANTED HER DEATH AS A REVENGE? ALL LIVING CREATURES FIGHT FOR SURVIVAL, BUT SHE

AYA! YUUHI! WE'D BETTER GET AWAY FROM HERE FAST. IT'D BE BAD FOR US TO HAVE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS!
UH YEAH.
AYA!

MIO
RI


OKAY BACK
UP, BACK
UP!!

IT COULD N'T BE
WHAT WAS THAT
TEN-NIGHTS. LET'S CALL YOU TOOYA.

THAT WASN'T JUST A NORMAL SUICIDE IT WAS THE ABSOLUTE WORST REVENGE SHE COULD HAVE GOTTEN
IT'S MORE THAN JUST TERRIBLE
Q-SAN, THAT'S MY KIMONO-SLEEVE!!
HOW TERRIBLE! WHY DOES IT ALWAYS HAVE TO BE POOR AYA-SAN!!
I MEAN, NO MATTER HOW MUCH SHE HAD BEEN PUSHING BACK HER PAIN AND SUFFERING. WHAT SAHARA DID WAS WRONG!!
NOT ONLY THAT, BUT SHE ALSO DID IT IN ORDER TO MAKE SOMEONE ELSE SUFFER.
TAKING ONE'S OWN LIFE FOR THAT PURPOSE IS SOMETHING THAT I SURE AS HELL CAN'T UNDERSTAND!!

WHAT HAPPEND TOOYA.
SHE WON'T EAT EITHER. IF SHE KEEPS THIS UP, SHE'LL GET SICK
I WONDER IF AYA-CHAN'S OKAY SHE'S BEEN SILENT LIKE THAT FOR DAYS NOW

I DON'T NEED IT JUST TAKE IT AWAY
I'LL COME TO PICK UP THE DISHES IN ANOTHER HOUR! IF YOU DON'T EAT IT BY THEN, I'LL PIN YOU DOWN AND FORCE YOU!
I'LL JUST LEAVE IT HERE WITH YOU THEN
I DON'T WANT ANYTHING
YULHI?!
YOU'RE GONNA EAT TODAY! HOW MUCH LONGER ARE YOU GONNA NOT EAT OR DRINK?!
AYA! FOOD!
I'M NOT HUNGRY
MANY OTHER PEOPLE .. EVEN THOUGH THEY WANTED TO LIVE MORE....
STILL HAD TO DIE!!

I COULD HAVE DIED LIKE THAT .MIORI
IF I TOOK ONE STEP WRONG.
MY COUSIN. BY BLOOD
THE INSTANT HER BODY HIT THE GROUND I FELT LIKE I WAS TORN TO PIECES!
I KNOW SHE REALLY MUST HAVE BEEN IN LOVE WITH TOOYA.
THE ONE WHO KILLED HER MOM WAS ME I CAN'T JUST SAY "IT WAS CERES'S FAULT I DIDN'T DO IT"!!
I MEAN THIS TIME,I EVEN KILLED HER DAUGHTER!!
YOU'RE WRONG!!

...NO!....LET GO!
I JUST TOLD YA I'D PIN YOU DOWN AND FORCE YOU TO EAT!
HELL NO!!
YUUHI!!

IF YOU DON'T EAT, YOU'LL DIE!!
I CAN'T JUST SIT HERE ON MY ASS AND WATCH YOU STARVE TO DEATH!!
I'M ALREADY DEAD!!

I'LL DO ANYTHING FOR YOU.
ANYTHING .
.AYA.

OKAY, AYA!!
SAMARA CHOSE TO DIE STOP BLAMING YOURSELF LIKE THAT!!
EVEN THOUGH I'M RUNNING OUT OF WAYS TO COMFORT YOU AT LEAST..ASK ME..AYA..

FOLLOW ME QUICK! IT'S AN EMERGENCY!!
IF THINGS KEEP ON LIKE THIS, EVEN YOU WILL
YUUHI-SAN!
HA, HANG ON A BIT, Q-SAN! AT LEAST LET ME PUT ON SOME UNDERWEAR!!
NO ONE WILL MIND THEY'LL JUST SAY "OH, SO HIS IS THREE INCHES, HUH"
WHAT WAS THAT?!
AYA..

I WAS THE ONE WHO PUSHED SAHARA MIORI INTO A CORNER.
.. WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU SAYING, CERES....NOT YOU, TOO ..
BUT YOU DO UNDERSTAND
YEAH. THAT HAPPENED AND I'M STILL ALIVE ... I KILLED A STRANGER.
I CAN'T SEE HIM ANYMORE NOW...
TOOYA. HAD SAID SOMETHING SIMILAR BEFORE...
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN EASIER TO JUST DIE.
A.

I TRIED MANY TIMES OVER THESE PAST FEW DAYS, BUT ..MY HEADACHES KEPT BOTHERING ME AND I COULDN'T REMEMBER HER.
SO, DID YOU REMEMBER ABOUT YOU AND AYA?!
BUT I ASKED MANY PEOPLE ABOUT AYA. ABOUT ME EVENTUALLY, I FOUND OUT THE MAIN MYSTERY IS WHO I AM.
BUT THE ONE THING I DID UNDERSTAND WAS THAT "TOOYA" IS NOT THE MAN
WHO CAN MAKE AYA HAPPY

TOOYA ...?!
WH WHY ..!
I COULDN'T STOP WORRYING ABOUT AYA. AND CAME LOOKING HERE
..I HAD BEEN HIDING IN A PLACE WHERE THE MIKAGE COULD NOT FIND ME, BUT

HOLD IT!
I HOPE THAT AYA GETS BETTER. I'M COUNTING ON YOU.
I AM GOING NOW
GOOD-BYE
NO MATTER WHAT THE MIKAGE DID TO HER I FORGOT ABOUT IT ALL
EVEN THOUGH THAT'S THE MAIN THING I SHOULDN'T HAVE FORGOTTEN
HOW DID SHE FEEL ABOUT ME ..AND HOW MUCH DID I HURT HER. .?
AND NOT ONLY AYA....BUT I EVEN DROVE MIORI TO HER DEATH.. .IT WAS ALL MY FAULT. ..!
WAIT, THAT'S NOT
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?! IS THAT ALL YOU HAVE TO SAY?!
DIDN'T YOU COME TO SEE HER?! HOW CAN YOU BE SO FUCKING COOL ABOUT IT ALL?!
YOU MAY BE PERFECTLY OKAY WITH SAYING "IT WAS ALL MY FAULT. I'M SORRY" AND MAKING YOURSELF INTO THE BAD GUY...

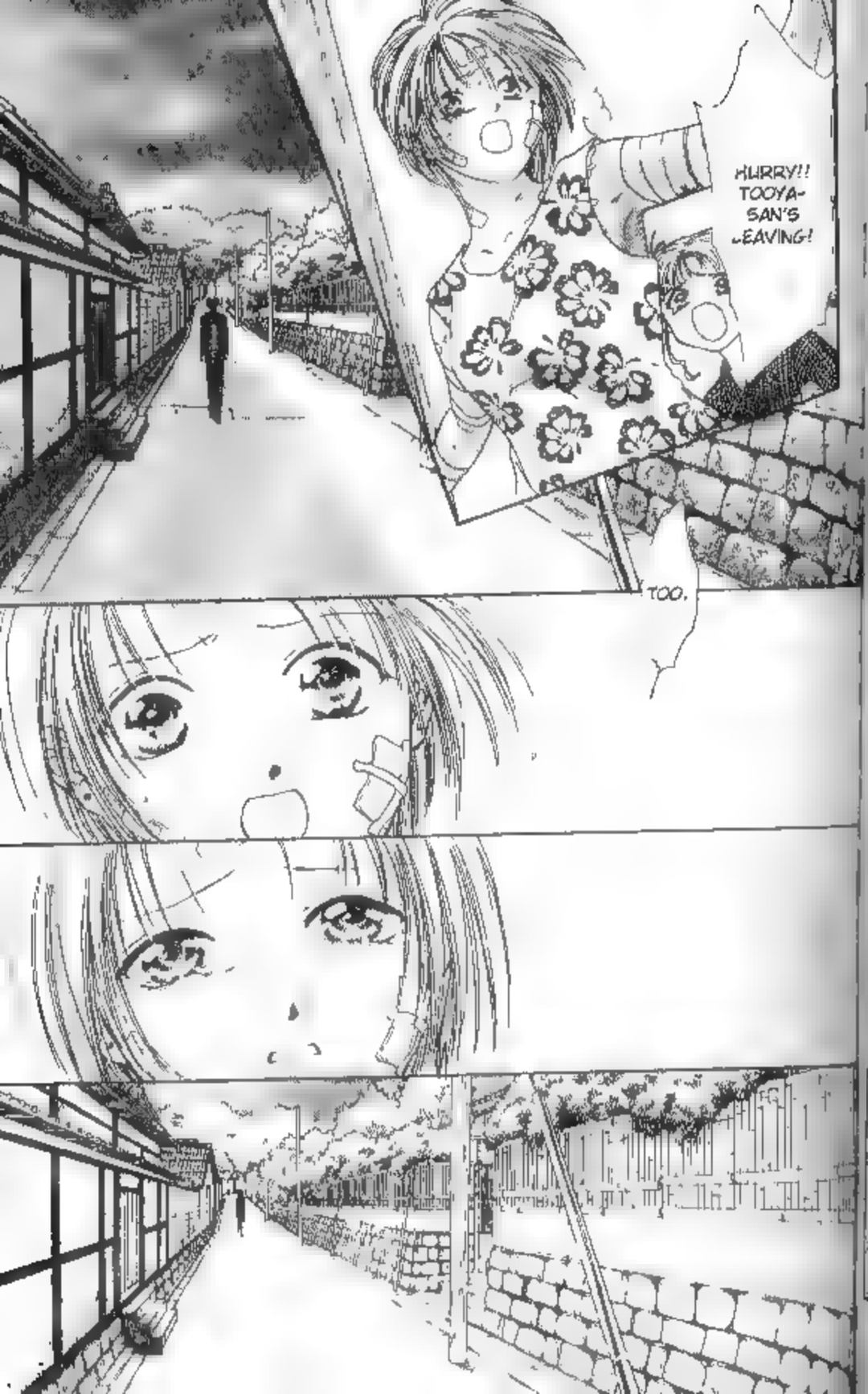
YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN.
I HATE MYSELF...!! NO MATTER HOW MUCH I TRY TO LOVE HER...ALL I SEEM TO BE ABLE TO DO IS HURT HER!!
NO MATTER HOW SMALL, THE FACT THAT YOUR FEELINGS FOR AYA ARE WHAT'RE MOST IMPORTANT TO YOU STILL HASN'T CHANGED
AND THEY WON'T CHANGE NO MATTER WHAT THAT'S WHY YOU CAME HERE AM I WRONG, TOOYA-SAN?

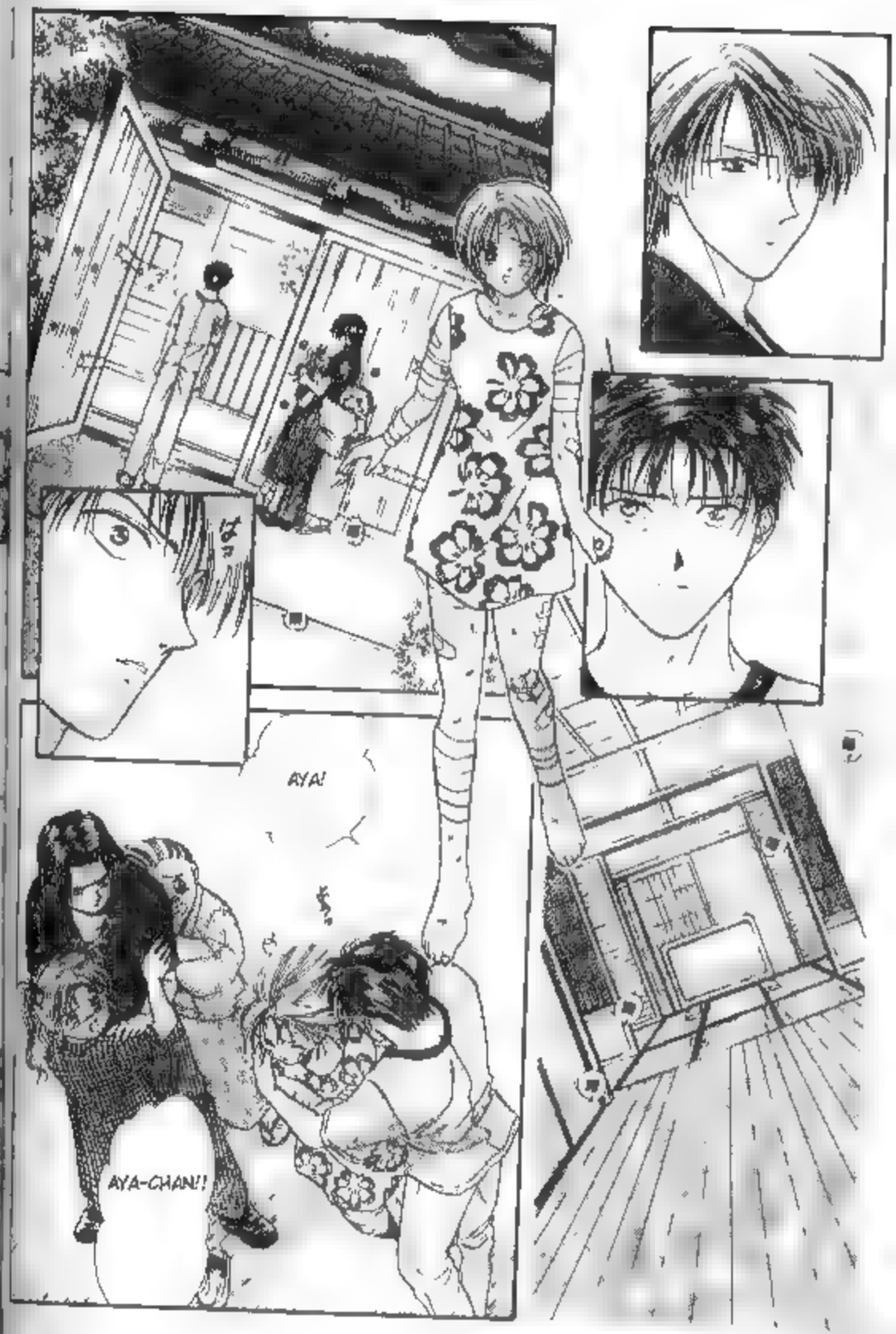
I CAN'T STAND TO WATCH! EVEN THOUGH SHE'S DEEPLY HURT.... SHE'S PROBABLY STILL IN LOVE WITH YOU!!
BUT WHAT THE HELL'S GONNA HAPPEN TO AYA?! SHE'S REALLY MESSED UP RIGHT NOW!!
GO AND SEE HER!....GO MAKE HER BETTER AGAIN!! I'M BEGGING YOU, HELP AYA!!
YUUHI!!
HOW CAN I SEE HER?!!
EVEN THOUGH FORGETTING ABOUT HER WAS THE WORST THING I COULD HAVE DONE, I STILL CAN'T REMEMBER HER!! YOU THINK I CAN COMFORT HER AS A DIFFERENT PERSON?!

I WONDER.
IF I REALLY DID LOVE MIKAGE AYA.?
IT WAS ONLY A LITTLE, BUT I REMEMBERED A LITTLE BIT OF MY TRUE PAST.. SO .FOR NOW! . FROM HERE ON, I'M GOING TO LOOK FOR MYSELF ..FOR BOTH OUR SAKES.
I CAN'T JUST KEEP MY MEMORIES OF MIORI AND LIVE WITH YOU AS MIZUKI, TOOYA. .BUT ..WHENEVER I TRIED TO REMEMBER THE YEAR WE SPENT TOGETHER THESE PAST FEW DAYS, I NOTICED SOMETHING.
FORGIVE ME..... AYA.
THAT MY CHEST HURTS MORE THAN MY HEAD . LIKE MY HEART IS BEING RIPPED OUT

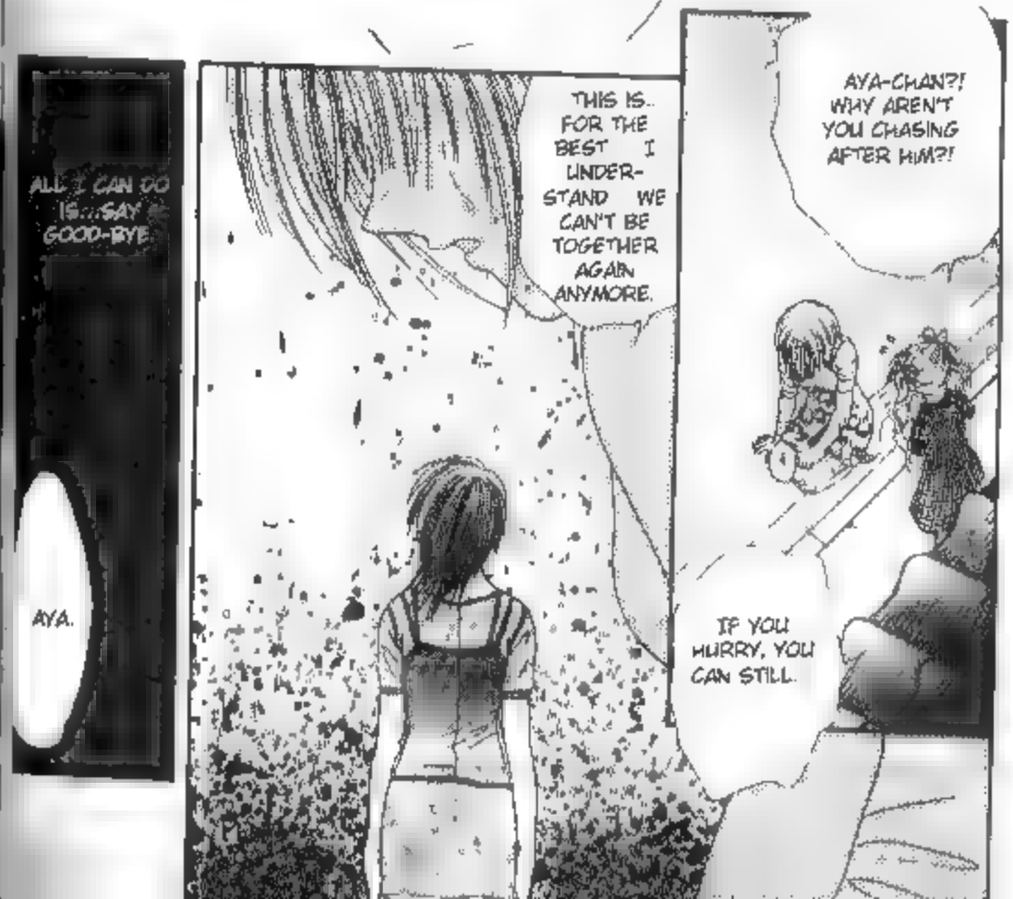
I'M SORRY. A WHILE AGO, I SAID SOMETHING BAD ABOUT YOU TO AYA-CHAN. THAT THE TWO OF YOU WOULDN'T WORK OUT BUT-
TOOYA-SAN!!
NO WAY
BUT BUT THAT'S NOT TRUE! YOUR REALLY DO... LOVE AYA-CHAN. MORE THAN I KNOW I'M SORRY. I'M SORRY!!
SO PLEASE DON'T GO! DON'T LEAVE AYA-CHAN BEHIND .!!

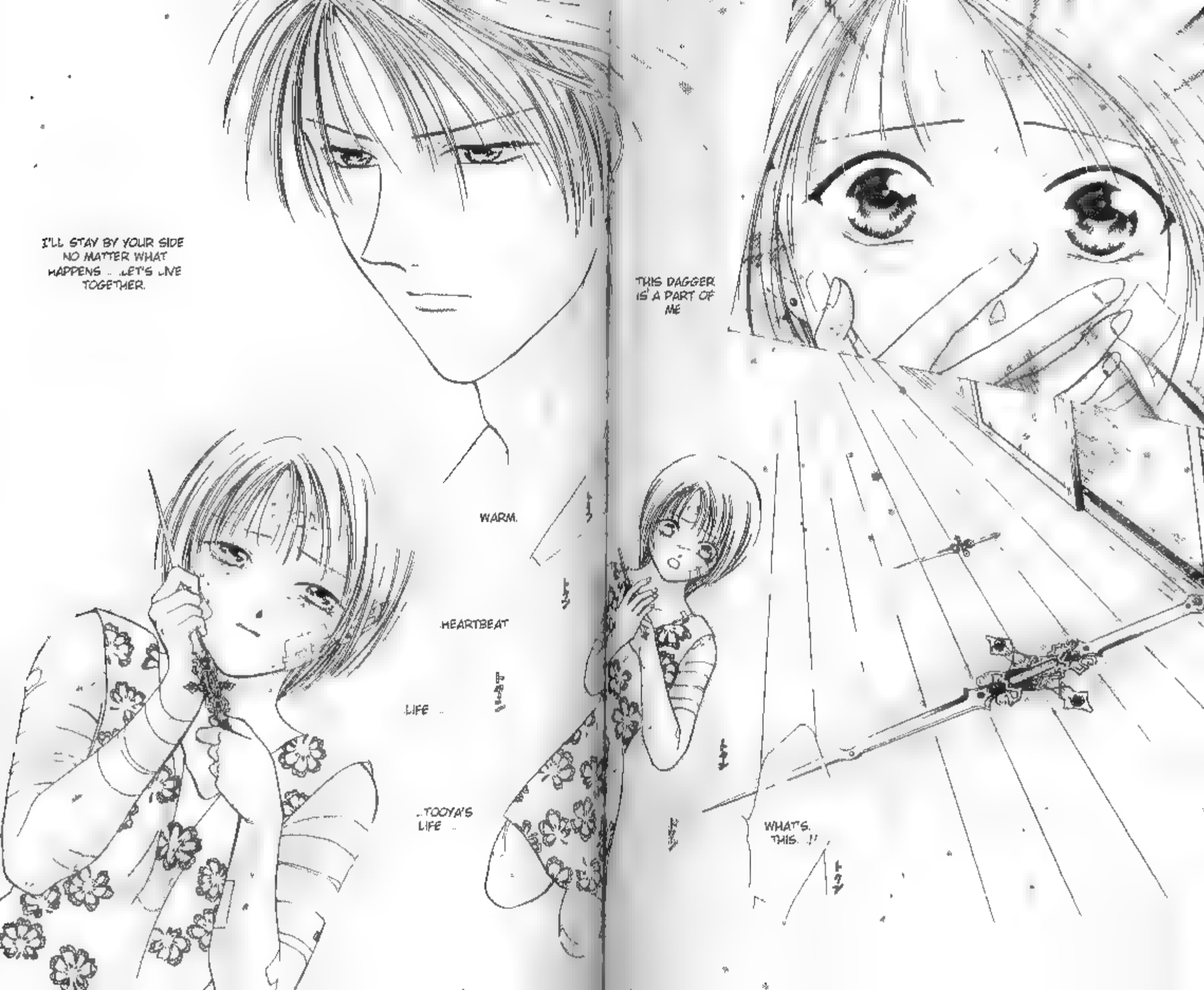
AYA TAKE CARE
IT CAN'T BE
TAKE CARE
THAT VOICE


HURRY!! TOOYA-SAN'S LEAVING!
TOO.


AYA!
AYA-CHAN!!

TOOYA SAID THAT
"I CAME TO GIVE AYA MY LIFE"
HE TOLD ME TO TELL YOU THAT NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, LET'S FEEL LIKE WE'RE LIVING TOGETHER
HUH ?
HE SAID "I'LL STAY BY YOUR SIDE"


ALL I CAN DO IS...SAY GOOD-BYE.
AYA.
THIS IS FOR THE BEST I UNDERSTAND WE CAN'T BE TOGETHER AGAIN ANYMORE.
AYA-CHAN?! WHY AREN'T YOU CHASING AFTER HIM?!
IF YOU HURRY, YOU CAN STILL.

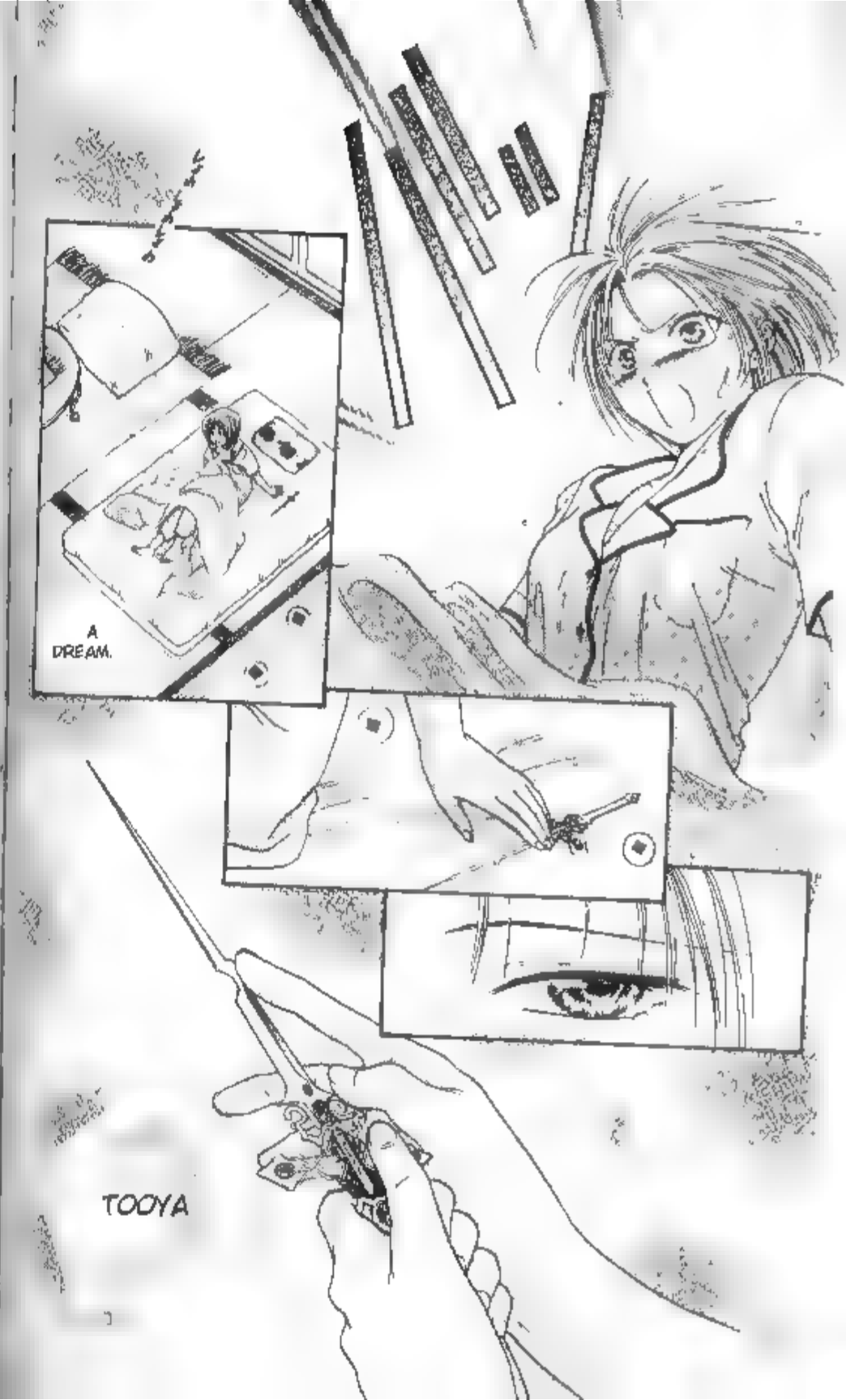

I'LL STAY BY YOUR SIDE NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS ... LET'S LIVE TOGETHER.
WARM.
HEARTBEAT
LIFE ...
...TOOYA'S LIFE ...
THIS DAGGER IS A PART OF ME
WHAT'S THIS...!!

I'LL SEE YOU AGAIN.
THIS IS REALLY DELICIOUS!
SO LET'S BELIEVE
THAT ONE MORE TIME
YUUH

TOOYA.
I HEAR YOU, TOOYA. YOU TOOK THE BLAME FOR EVERYTHING. EVEN MIORI. AND YOU'RE TELLING ME TO LIVE. AT FIRST I THOUGHT THE WAY WE GO ON LIVING IS TO STEAL THE LIVES OF OTHERS
BUT THAT'S WRONG.
!
BECAUSE
I'VE NEVER BEEN ALONE.

ME?
I'M RIGHT HERE.
HUH?
OH. THIS OCEAN. REMINDS ME OF THE OCEAN IN MIHO
TURN AROUND, TOOYA.
IT'S THE OCEAN
TOOYA. ?ARE YOU GONNA LOOK AT THE OCEAN FOREVER. ?

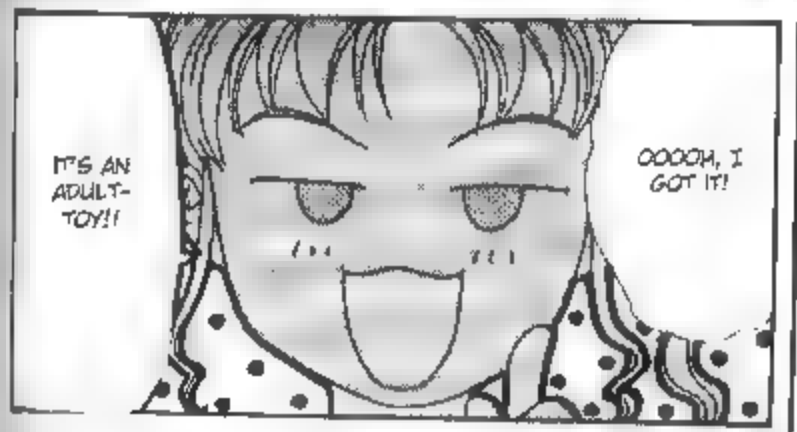
I DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU ARE ..OR WHEN I'LL SEE YOU AGAIN.
SO WE CAN FEEL LIKE WE'RE LIVING TOGETHER
IT'S BEEN NEARLY A MONTH SINCE YOU LEFT THIS AND WENT AWAY
I STILL CAN'T GET RID OF THE PAIN IN MY CHEST, BUT I'M TRYING
WITH YOUR WARMTH

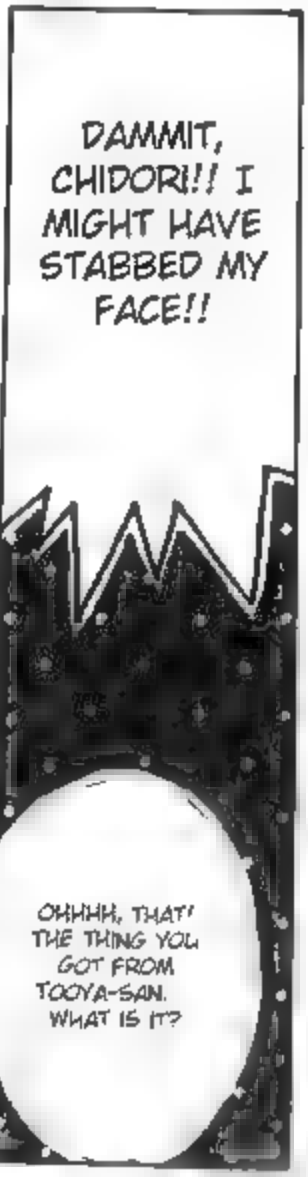

A DREAM.
TOOYA

YOU'RE GONNA TRY LOOKING FOR THE HAGOROMO IN SHIZUOKA?!
YUP!
HANG ON A SEC, AYA! YOUR WOUNDS STILL AREN'T HEALED AND YOU'VE STILL GOT BRUISES! YOU'RE STILL NOT BETTER!
I'M FINE.

BUT ARE YOU SURE? AREN'T YOU STILL DEPRESSED ABOUT SAHARA..
IT'S HARD ON ME BUT I DON'T WANT TO TURN MY BACK ON HER DEATH EITHER.
SHUT UP ABOUT THAT ALREADY!!
WHAAT
LOOKS THAT WAY TO ME! AFTER ALL, SHE WAS JUST PLAYING WITH AN ADULT-TOY

IT'S LUNCH TIME ALREADY! IF YOU DON'T GET UP, WE'LL EAT IT ALL!!
はいあい
AYA-CHAN 'MORNING!!


IT'S AN ADULT-TOY!!
OOOOH, I GOT IT!


DAMMIT, CHIDORI!! I MIGHT HAVE STABBED MY FACE!!
OHHHH, THAT' THE THING YOU GOT FROM TOOYA-SAN. WHAT IS IT?

WHAT?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
あん

I FIGURED I'D HAVE TO START FROM WHERE SHE WAS BORN.

DURING THAT WHOLE YEAR BY HERSELF IN THAT HOUSE... WHAT WAS MIORI THINKING ABOUT

EVEN CHIDORI HASN'T BEEN HOME LATELY SHE MUST BE WORRIED ABOUT HER LITTLE BROTHER. IT'S EVEN SUMMER VACATION AND EVEN THOUGH MY PARENTS ARE BOTH GONE

OH SHURO'S BEEN HELPING US BECAUSE SHE FEELS SHE CAN'T LEAVE US

THE AOGIRIS HAVE TAKEN ME AS A COMPLETE STRANGER AND TREATED ME AS ONE OF THEM.

SHIZUOKA. THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT

OH, SORRY! GO WITHOUT ME FOR NOW!

RRRR

I GUESS HER MANAGER'S BEEN GETTING ON HER CASE LATELY

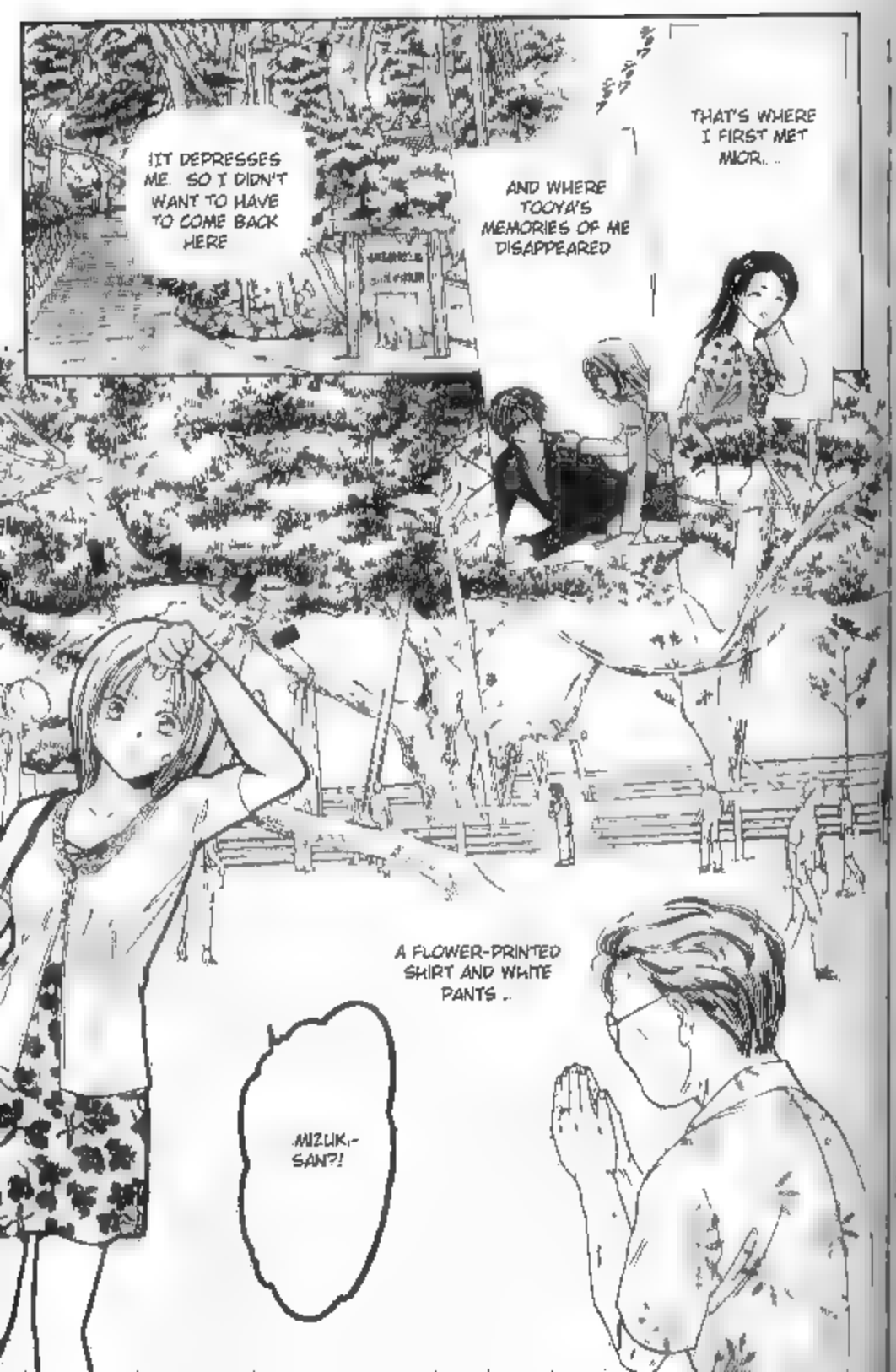
SHI-ZUOKA

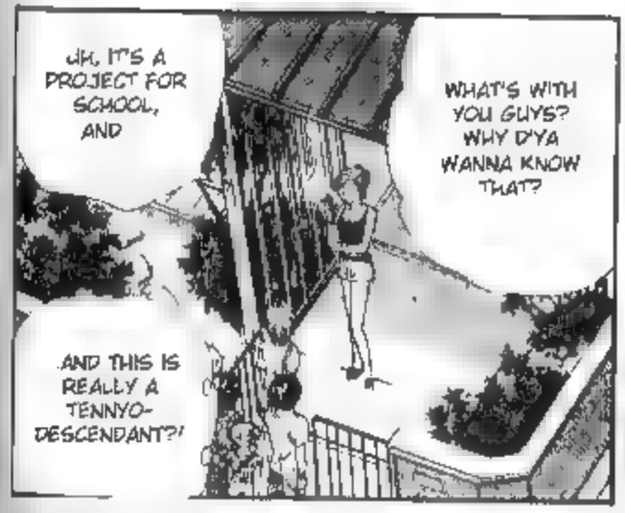
I'VE GOTTA LOOK TOWARDS THE FUTURE LET ME GO!

THAT'S OKAY. I'D BEEN THINKING ABOUT IT EVERY DAY FOR THE PAST MONTH.

HERE'S THE DEAL, THE HOUSE THAT TOOYA THOUGHT WAS HIS WHEN HIS NAME WAS MIZUKI WAS SAHARA'S HOUSE.

THE REAL MIZUKI-SAN IS IN THE NEXT TOWN OVER BUT I DON'T THINK WE'LL HAVE MUCH LUCK


IT DEPRESSES ME. SO I DIDN'T WANT TO HAVE TO COME BACK HERE
AND WHERE TOOYA'S MEMORIES OF ME DISAPPEARED
THAT'S WHERE I FIRST MET MIOR...
A FLOWER-PRINTED SHIRT AND WHITE PANTS..
MIZUKI-SAN?!


UH, IT'S A PROJECT FOR SCHOOL, AND
WHAT'S WITH YOU GUYS? WHY D'YA WANNA KNOW THAT?
AND THIS IS REALLY A TENNYO-DESCENDANT?!

IF ONLY SOMEONE HAD BEEN. WITH MIORI, HELPING HER OUT
HAGOROMO?
MIZUKI

WEllll..., I THINK MY GRANDMA MIGHT KNOW BUT SHE'S KINDA SENILE, AND MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO TELL YOU MUCH.

HMMM, NOW? AT MIHO NO MATSUBARA.
WH, WHERE IS SHE

I GUESS SHE MIGHT HAVE COMMITTED SUICIDE A MONTH OR SO AGO... SHE MUST'VE HAD A REASON, I GUESS.
IT WAS STUPID OF HER TO JUST DIE WITHOUT TELLING ■.
YOU LOOK LIKE A GIRL WHO USED TO COME HERE A LOT
SHE LOOKED LIKE SHE WAS ALWAYS CRYING, SO I LEFT HER ALONE.

SORRY TO MAKE YOU LISTEN TO MY RAMBLINGS. RUN ALONG NOW!
THE THING I HATE MOST ABOUT YOUNG ONES THESE DAYS IS HOW THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND THE VALUE OF POSSESSIONS VERSUS LIFE!
WHEN YOU'RE AS OLD AS I AM, YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN YOU'RE GONNA DIE. THE WORLD IS CRUEL.

SHE'S FAST!
EXCUSE ME, COULD YOU PLEASE TELL ME ABOUT THE HAGOROMO IN THE TENNYO LEG...
THOUGHT SO!

MY GRANDDAUGHTER'S ENOUGH FOR ME. YOUNG'UNS THESE DAYS ONLY CARE ABOUT GAUDY CLOTHES AND DECORATING THEMSELVES, BECAUSE THEY'RE EMPTY INSIDE, AND THEY CAN'T EVEN READ KANJI ANYMORE. BOYS AND GIRLS ALIKE SPEND THEIR MONEY FOR USELESS THINGS, LEADING VERY LAZY LIVES.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!
BUT YOUR GRAND-DAUGHTER SAID YOU'D KNOW!
THAT DOESN'T MATTER. I HATE YOUNG PEOPLE!
HUH ?
COME TO THINK OF IT

I'M LIVING WITH ALL I'VE GOT SECOND BY SECOND !!
DOING ALL I CAN IS MY RESPON SIBILITY TOWARDS THOSE WHO DIED SO

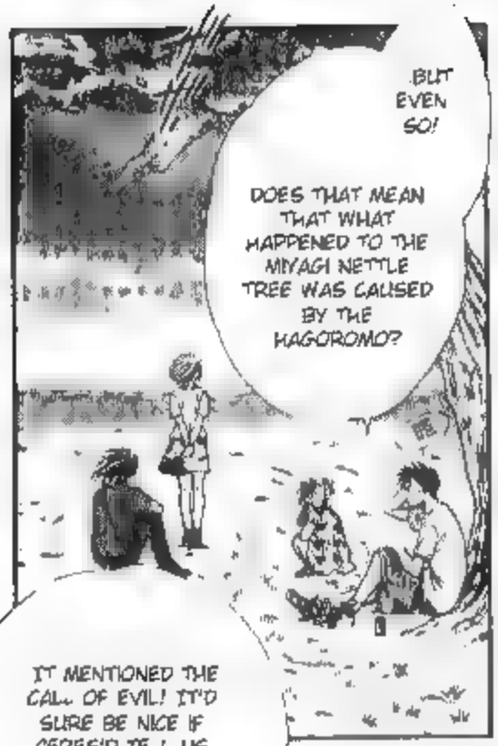
AYA.
YOU JUST CAME OUT OF NOWHERE AND STARTED TALKING TO ME. WHO ARE YOU? JUST WHAT RESPONSIBILITY DO YOU HAVE REGARDING THE HAGOROMO?!

I LET THAT GIRL DIE NO, NOT JUST HER. OF COURSE,

IT'S NOT WHAT I WANTED TO HAPPEN BUT SUDDENLY,
BUT I CAN'T RUN FROM IT EVEN IF I TRIED
BUT THAT'S HOW FRUSTERATING IT IS. I CAN'T DO MUCH THE WAY I AM NOW, BUT
I NOTICED. THAT I WAS ALWAYS DRIPPING WITH BLOOD. I STILL CAN'T SEE WHAT'S AHEAD OF ME

ANOTHER FAMOUS ONE IS IN TANGO. THERE'S A SHRINE OF A TENNYO WHO WAS UNABLE TO GO TO THE HEAVENS AND DIED. THEY SAY THAT THERE WAS A LOT OF FLOODING THERE
IT'S A LITTLE STORY PASSED DOWN THAT SAYS MAYBE SOMEONE TOUCHED THE HAGOROMO AGAIN.
THE HAGOROMO WAS BURIED AS THEY WERE, BURNED ONTO THE MUTATED MAN'S BODY IT'S A STORY FROM SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE
EVERYONE BELIEVED IT WAS A PUNISHMENT FROM THE HEAVENS IT'S A TALE ONLY IN OUR FAMILY
WAS THAT REALLY THE HAGOROMO?! IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE?
TANGO.
THE STORY'S OVER!! SATISFIED?!
THERE WAS ALSO THAT MAN WHO SPENT ALLLL DAY STARING AT THE OCEAN. .
. .MY GOODNESS... SURE BEEN A LOT OF TOURISTS HERE LATELY
THANK YOU SO MUCH!!
THE HAGOROMO IS SOMETHING THAT WHEN WORN BRINGS ABOUT DESTRUCTION.
UNDERSTAND?
II
THAT'S WHAT HAS BEEN PASSED DOWN IN MY FAMILY LONG AGO. . IN A RAGE, A MAN PUT ON THE HAGOROMO OF THE MIZUKI FAMILY BUT WHEN HIS FAMILY FOUND HIM. .

TO GET MY
TOOYA.
TENNYO
...
TOOYA CAME HERE, TOO. !
JUST LIKE ME .IN ORDER TO BEGIN FROM HERE ..?!
I TOLD HER. THAT I WOULD COME AND TAKE HER WITH ME SOMEDAY
ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT YOUR BELOVED TENNYO, HAKURYOU-SAN!
WHAT KIND OF MAN WAS HE?!
HE WAS A YOUNG MAN! DIDN'T SEEM JAPANESE HE WAS SITTING JUST ABOUT OVER THERE STARRRRRING INTO THE OCEAN. KIND OF LOOKED LIKE A COPPER STATUE OF HAKURYOU YOU MUST HAVE SEEN IT AT THE ENTRANCE SO I GOT KINDA INTERESTED IN HIM AND CALLED OUT TO HIM, KINDA HALF-JOKINGLY


BUT EVEN SO!
DOES THAT MEAN THAT WHAT HAPPENED TO THE MIYAGI NETTLE TREE WAS CAUSED BY THE HAGOROMO?

IT MENTIONED THE CALL OF EVIL! IT'D SURE BE NICE IF CERES'D TELL US SOMETHING

I THINK I HEARD TOOYA SAY THAT THE MIKAGE THINK OF THE TENNYO AS INTELLECTUAL BEINGS OF THE UNIVERSE. IF THAT'S TRUE, THEN MAYBE THE HAGOROMO IS SOME BOGUS THING WE CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO, AYA?

ANYONE OF THEM CAN BE A TENNYO.
WHEN WOMEN ARE HAPPY WITH THE MEN THEY LOVE.

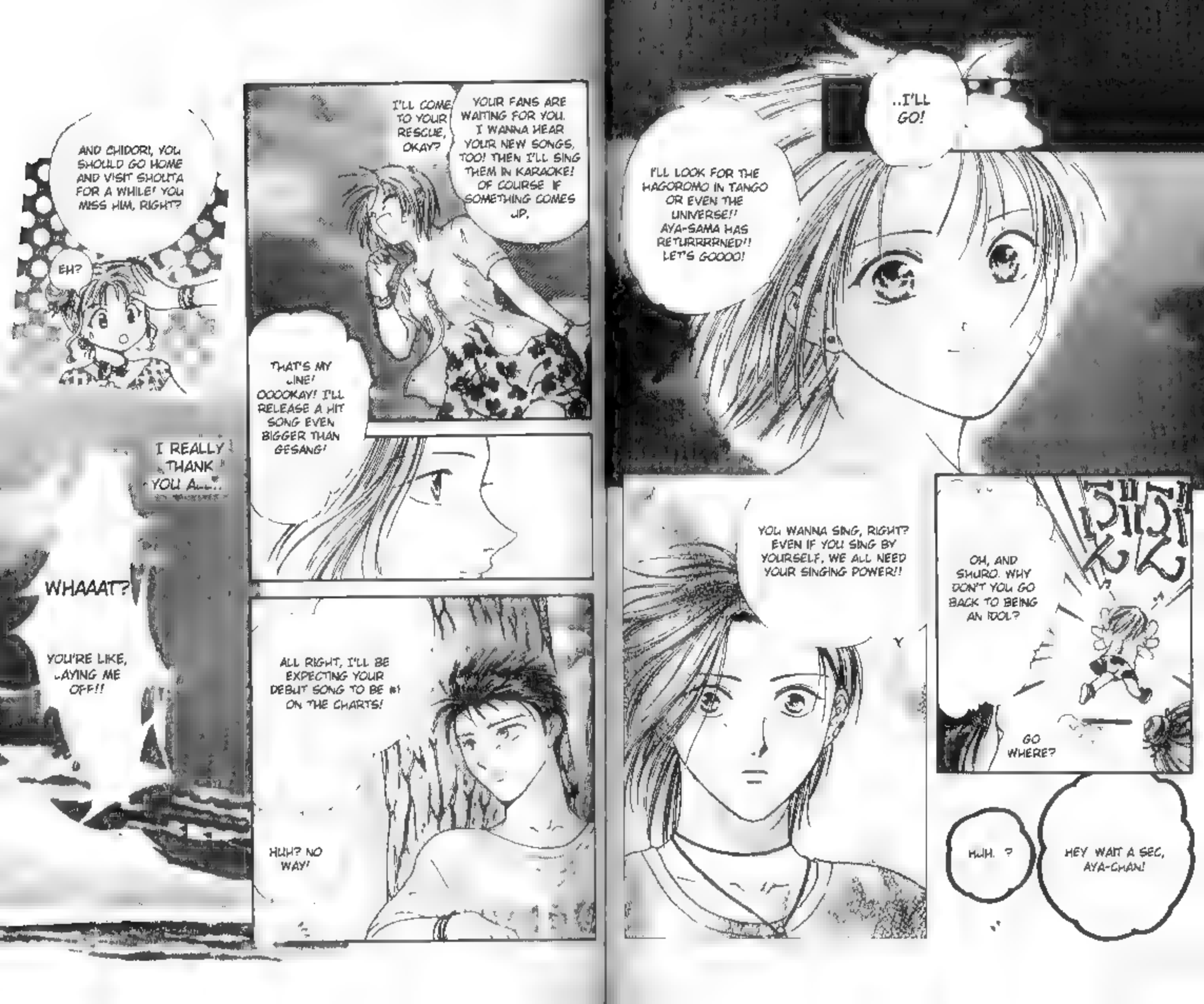
I JUST REMEMBERED. THAT THERE WAS A TIME WHERE I WAS ONCE YOUNG LIKE YOU. WHEN I WAS A TENNYO. YOU SEE,

I SEE

WITH WOMEN.

YOU'RE A TENNYO, AREN'T YOU.
とりきり

I'LL COME TO GET MY TENNYO BACK.

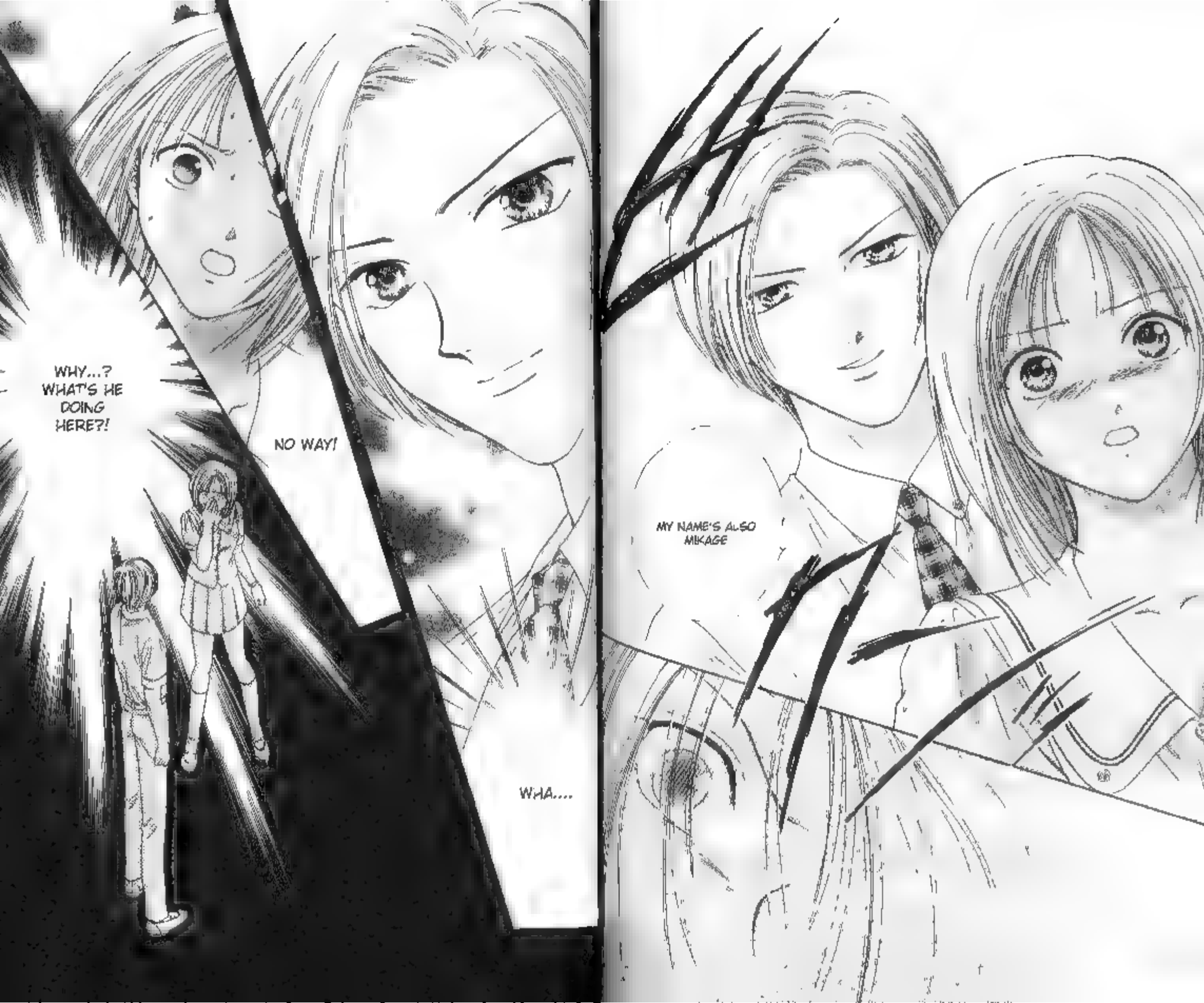

AND CHIDORI, YOU SHOULD GO HOME AND VISIT SHOUTA FOR A WHILE! YOU MISS HIM, RIGHT?
EH?
I'LL COME TO YOUR RESCUE, OKAY?
YOUR FANS ARE WAITING FOR YOU. I WANNA HEAR YOUR NEW SONGS, TOO! THEN I'LL SING THEM IN KARAOKE! OF COURSE IF SOMETHING COMES UP.
THAT'S MY LINE! OOOOKAY! I'LL RELEASE A HIT SONG EVEN BIGGER THAN GESANG!
I REALLY THANK YOU A...
WHAAAT?
YOU'RE LIKE, SAYING ME OFF!!
ALL RIGHT, I'LL BE EXPECTING YOUR DEBUT SONG TO BE #1 ON THE CHARTS!
HUH? NO WAY!
..I'LL GO!
I'LL LOOK FOR THE HAGOROMO IN TANGO OR EVEN THE UNIVERSE!! AYA-SAMA HAS RETURRRRNED!! LET'S GOOOO!
YOU WANNA SING, RIGHT? EVEN IF YOU SING BY YOURSELF, WE ALL NEED YOUR SINGING POWER!!
OH, AND SHURO. WHY DON'T YOU GO BACK TO BEING AN IDOL?
GO WHERE?
HUH. ?
HEY WAIT A SEC, AYA-CHAN!

SO...I'LL BECOME STRONGER LITTLE BY LITTLE.
SO THAT SOME DAY I'LL BE ABLE TO PROTECT SOMEONE....
TO SUPPORT SOMEONE...
GOOD-BYE... MIORI...
TANGO, KYOTO
WHAT IS SAID TO BE THE EARLIEST TENNYO LEGEND EXISTED IN TANGO.
THE FOSTER-DAUGHTER OF AN ELDERLY COUPLE BECAME A TENNYO.
WITH HER POWERS, SHE CREATED A WINE THAT COULD CURE ANY DISEASE AND SAVED THE VILLAGE WITH IT BUT THEN SHE WAS CHASED AFTER THE ELDERLY COUPLE.
EVEN THOUGH SHE HAD THE HAGOROMO, THEY WERE SOILED BY THE EARTH AND SHE COULD NOT RETURN TO THE HEAVENS. SHE CRIED AND TRAVELED AND MADE HER WAY TO A VILLAGE WHERE SHE WITHERED AWAY AND A SHRINE WAS BUILT TO HER THERE
THE VILLAGE MIZUKI-SAN TALKED ABOUT THAT WAS FLOODED AND THE TEMPLE ALSO DO NOT EXIST IN THE PRESENT!
AND AFTER I RESEARCHED, I FOUND THE PLACE THAT MIGHT HAVE THE TEMPLE,
SO!
WHICH IS HERE!!

OKAY
AND EVEN TOOYA IS WITH ME HERE
HUH?
NOTHING! LET'S ACTUALLY FIND SOMETHING SO WE CAN GIVE SHURO AND CHIDORI SOME GOOD NEWS! SEE YA LATER!
I KNOW THEY'LL BE OKAY, SHURO AND CHIDORI I WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE THEM FOR A WHILE BUT ALL BE FINE
I GUESS PUTTING HIS DAGGER BETWEEN MY BREASTS WAS A BIT NAUGHTY, BUT TOOYA MUST FEEL IT, TOO.

AT LEAST LET ME BE WITH YOU UNTIL TOOYA COMES BACK.
THERE'S NO OTHER PLACE THAT LOOKED LIKE IT WOULD HAVE THE MAGOROMO. THE FACT THAT THEY WERE DIGGING UNDERGROUND AND DISCOVERING ARTIFACTS WAS A DEAD GIVE-AWAY!
THERE WOULD HAVE TO BE A SCHOOL BUILT ON TOP OF IT. HUH ALL I SEEM TO EVER DO IS TRANSFER SCHOOLS.
BUT YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO TRANSFER IN HERE WITH ME, YUUHI.

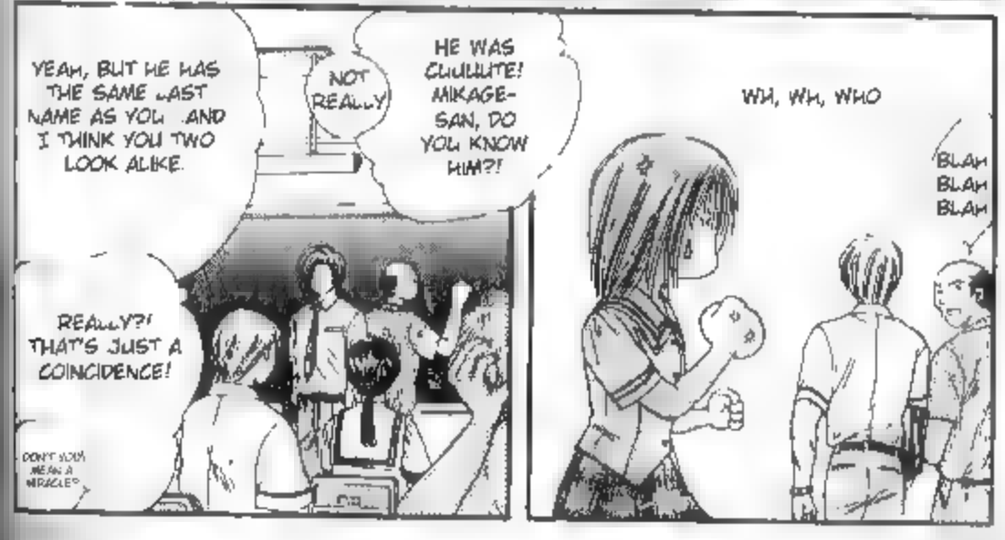
2ND YEAR, 2ND CLASS.
YUUH.
5TH CLASS
AND ME
2ND CLASS
AND ONE MORE?
LUCKYYYY I'VE NEVER BEEN TO TOKYO!
BUT WE SURE GOT A LOT OF TRANSFERS IN THIS YEAR, HUH HOW STRANGE
HUH?
THERE'S THREE OF YOU ALL TOGETHER.
THE OTHER PERSON CAME FROM TOKYO, TOO, I THINK THE ONE IN THE 5TH CLASS, RIGHT?
IS IT A BOY?!
YEAH, A BOY! WANNA COME WITH US TO CHECK HIM OUT LATER?
LOOKS LIKE HE'S NOT HERE
HEY, YOU GIRLS! YOU CAME TO PEEP IN ON THE NEW GUY, RIGHT! TOOOO BAD! HE SAID HE'LL BE A LITTLE LATE!
YOU'VE GOT THE WRONG IDEA! WE WERE JUST SHOWING OUR NEW TRANSFER STUDENT AROUND!
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, MIKAGE-SAN!
MIKAGE?
MY WHAT A COINCIDENCE


WHY...? WHAT'S HE DOING HERE?!
NO WAY!
WHA....
MY NAME'S ALSO MIKAGE

WHY? WHAT'S HE DOING IN TANGO...?!
OH,
WON'T YOU ENTER THE CLASSROOM, MIKAGE?

INTRODUCE YOURSELF!
I'M MIKAGE AKI. I COME FROM TOKYO!
HUH?!
NICE TO MEET YOU

GLAD TO SEE YOU'RE WELL LET'S TALK LATER IN PRIVATE.
HMM
!?
YOU GIRLS GO BACK TO YOUR CLASSROOMS!
WHA, WHAT?!
I'LL COME AND GET YOU, SO WAIT FOR ME


YEAH, BUT HE HAS THE SAME LAST NAME AS YOU AND I THINK YOU TWO LOOK ALIKE.
NOT REALLY
HE WAS CUUUUTE! MIKAGE-SAN, DO YOU KNOW HIM?!
REALLY?! THAT'S JUST A COINCIDENCE!
DON'T YOU MEAN A MIRACLE?
WH, WH, WHO
BLAH BLAH BLAH

EVEN THOUGH THE BODY IS AKI'S THE CONTENTS ARE A DIFFERENT MAN. HE IS NO LONGER YOUR BROTHER. IF YOU CANNOT FIGHT HIM, THE ONLY OPTION IS TO AVOID HIM.
HE MIGHT HAVE REALLY GOTTEN SERIOUS ABOUT TAKING ME
IF THAT WERE SO, THEN WHY DID HE NOT TELL YOU RIGHT AWAY?
OH. YOU'RE RIGHT
WHY ARE YOU BEING OPTIMISTIC?
BUT-
LET US KEEP AN EYE ON HIM FOR A WHILE
WHY THE HELL IS THAT CHICK TALKING TO HERSELF?

WILL YOU PLEASE RETURN TO YOUR OWN CLASSROOMS!!
AKI?
YOU MUST NOT GET CLOSE TO THAT MAN.
CERES? BUT WHAT IF HE ACTUALLY BECAME AKI AGAIN.
YEAAAH, THAT'S WHY I'M INTERESTED IN HIM.
WELLLL HE HAS SCARS ALL OVER HIS BODY KINDA MAKES YA WONDER HOW HE GOT THEM.
THAT CAN'T BE BUT SOMEHOW, HE LOOKED DIFFERENT
BUT I THINK I LIKE THE GUY IN THE 6TH CLASS BETTER
ME, TOO!
AYA

THERE'S BEEN SOME EXCITEMENT EVER SINCE WE TRANSFERED? BUILDING!! AM I RIGHT?
OH YEAH! IT'S GOTTA BE THAT RUMOUR ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENED AT THE DIGGING SITE AT THE NEW SCHOOL

ARRGGH, MY NECK HURT'S LIKE HELL!
SORRY
SUZU-MI'S PARENTS' HOUSE

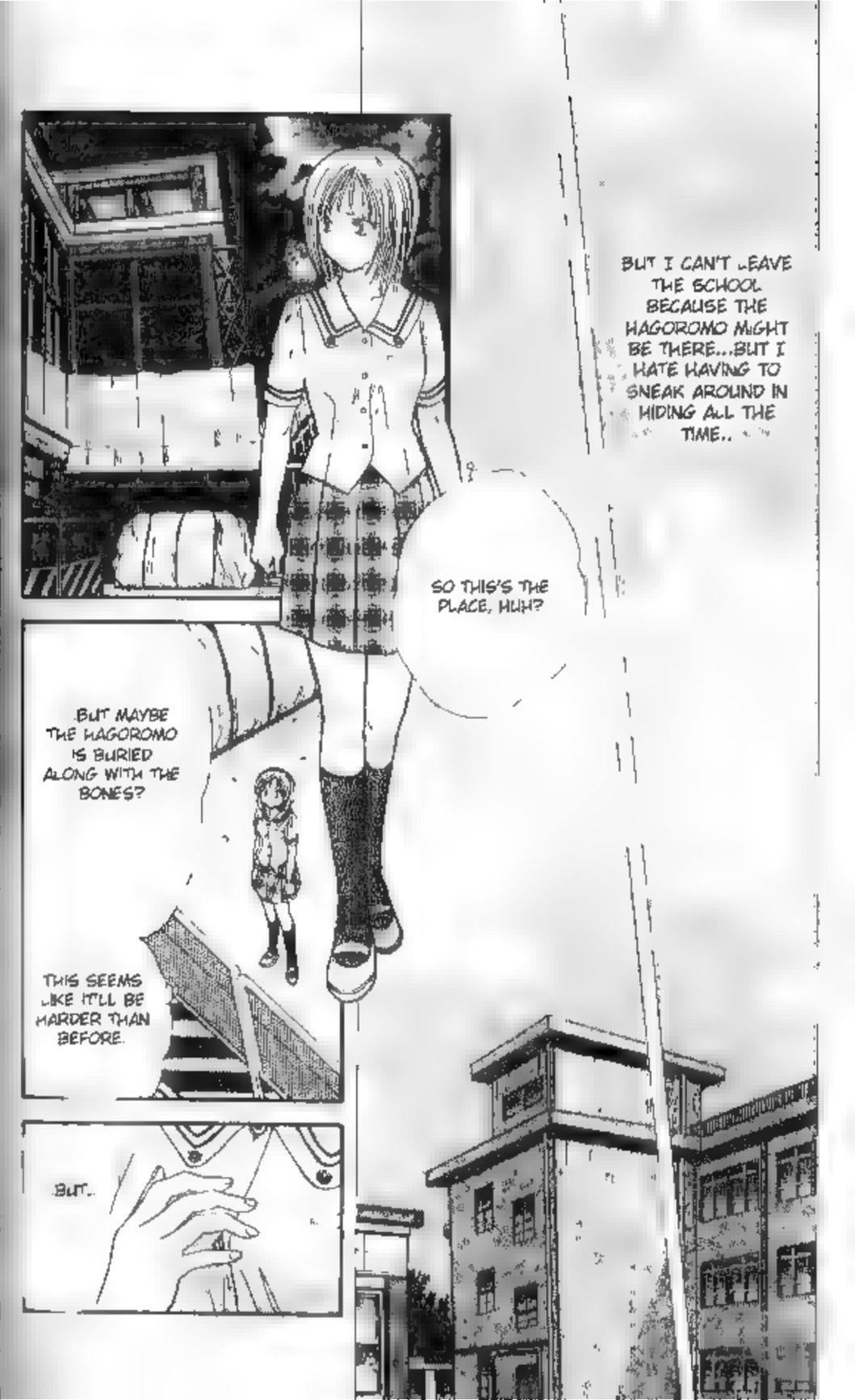
YEAH, THE BONES OF PEOPLE WHO DIED IN THAT FLOOD LONG AGO UNDER THE SCHOOL'S GROUND WERE FOUND, AND MAYBE THE SCARY VOICE HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH IT? KINDA STORY, HUH!
WHAT? WHAT?!
THAT'S RIGHT! I ALSO HEARD ABOUT IT FROM THE NEIGHBORS! THAT MANY FARMERS AROUND THE AREA HAVE BEEN HEARING A STRANGE SCREAMING VOICE!
HUH? NOT THAT

OH, MY, AND YOU WERE JUST THINKING ABOUT HOW THAT QUALITY OF AYA'S IS CUUUUTE
JEEZ, AYA'S SO STUPPPPID! THERE'S NOTHING TO BE SCARED ABOUT!
I'VE NEVER HEARD OF IT THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.

HEEEEEY!
AH, THERE YOU ARE
DAMN!

A. YA

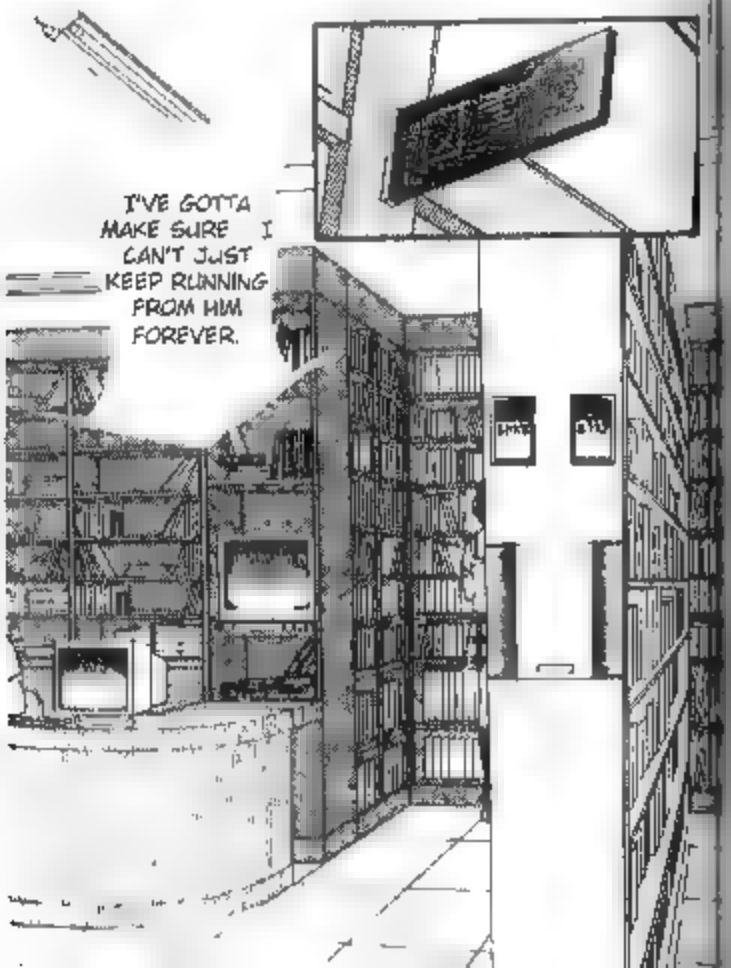
TOOYA MUST BE SEARCHING VERY HARD RIGHT NOW, TOO
I CAN'T GIVE UP, EITHER. UNTIL HE COMES BACK TO ME
"I'LL COME TO GET MY TENNYO BACK."
OKKKKAAAAY!! COME AT ME, MONSTERS AND SHISO, I'M READY FOR YA!!
UM, WELL...


BUT I CAN'T LEAVE THE SCHOOL BECAUSE THE HAGOROMO MIGHT BE THERE...BUT I HATE HAVING TO SNEAK AROUND IN HIDING ALL THE TIME..
SO THIS'S THE PLACE, HUH?
BUT MAYBE THE HAGOROMO IS BURIED ALONG WITH THE BONES?
THIS SEEMS LIKE IT'LL BE HARDER THAN BEFORE.
BUT..

IT WOULD BE WEIRD OF YOU TO TRUST ME, BUT.
HUH?
I'LL BE IN THE LIBRARY AFTER SCHOOL TODAY. IT'S A QUIET PLACE,
AND THERE ARE ALSO PEOPLE THERE. IT'S SAFE, RIGHT?
THIS'S ONLY IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND, OKAY? SEE YA.
HE COULDN'T REALLY BE AKI, COULD HE..!!
HE COULDN'T
CERES. IS THAT. REALLY SHISO. ?

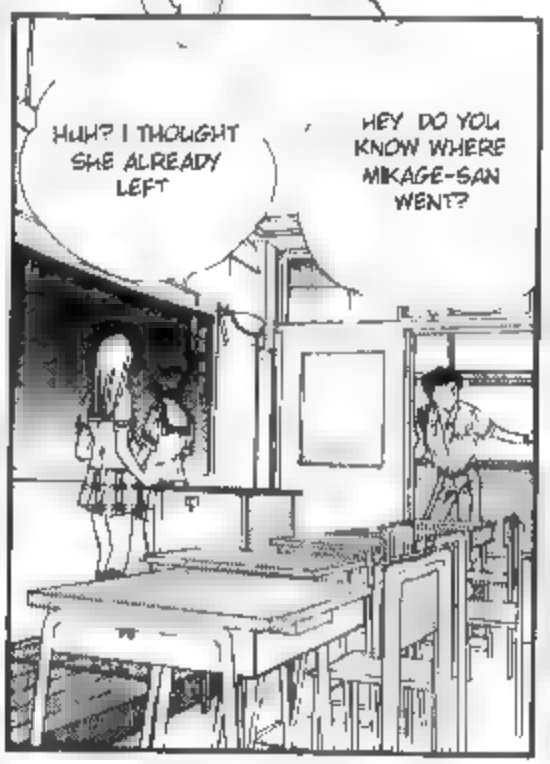
AYA,
JUST LISTEN TO ME FOR A BIT
DON'T TOUCH ME!!
AYA.
HAVE YOU ALREADY FORGOTTEN ABOUT ME?

WHAT?!
THE NEW KID IN THE 5TH CLASS IS ALSO A MIKAGE. DO YOU KNOW IF THEY'RE RELATED SOMEHOW?
YOU'RE THAT NEW KID IN THE 6TH CLASS, RIGHT?


I'VE GOTTA MAKE SURE I CAN'T JUST KEEP RUNNING FROM HIM FOREVER.

HUH?

THAT'S WEIRD WHY DIDN'T SHE WAIT FOR ME?


HUH? I THOUGHT SHE ALREADY LEFT
HEY DO YOU KNOW WHERE MIKAGE-SAN WENT?

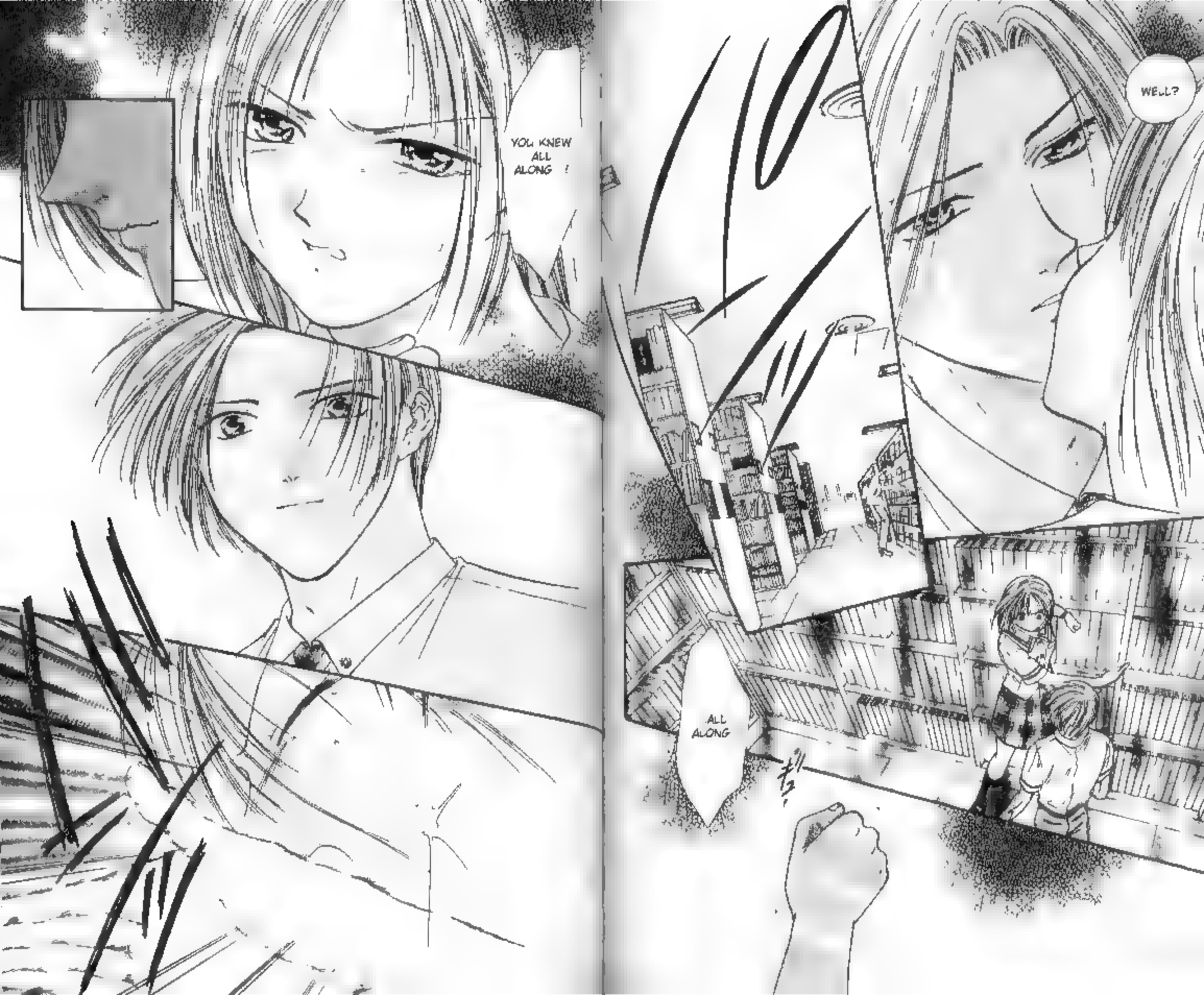
I MEAN, IT IS POSSIBLE, AND I WAS ALSO CLOSED INSIDE OF MYSELF, AND I WAS ABLE TO COME BACK AKI CAN, TOO!

IS IT REALLY YOU?!
AKI ?
I CAME BACK TO MY SENSES ABOUT A MONTH AGO. I HURT A LOT.. AND A CRACK GOT INTO MY ARM.
SOMETIMES SHISO GETS LET OUT BUT LATELY, I'VE BEEN STRONG ENOUGH
AH. ! THAT'S A HABIT OF AKI'S!
BUT DON'T TELL KAGAMI I TOLD HIM I'D HELP HIM WITH HIS C-PROJECT IF HE'D SET ME FREE, AND HE AGREED!
AND THEN I FOUND OUT THAT THE HAGOROMO MIGHT BE AT THIS SCHOOL.

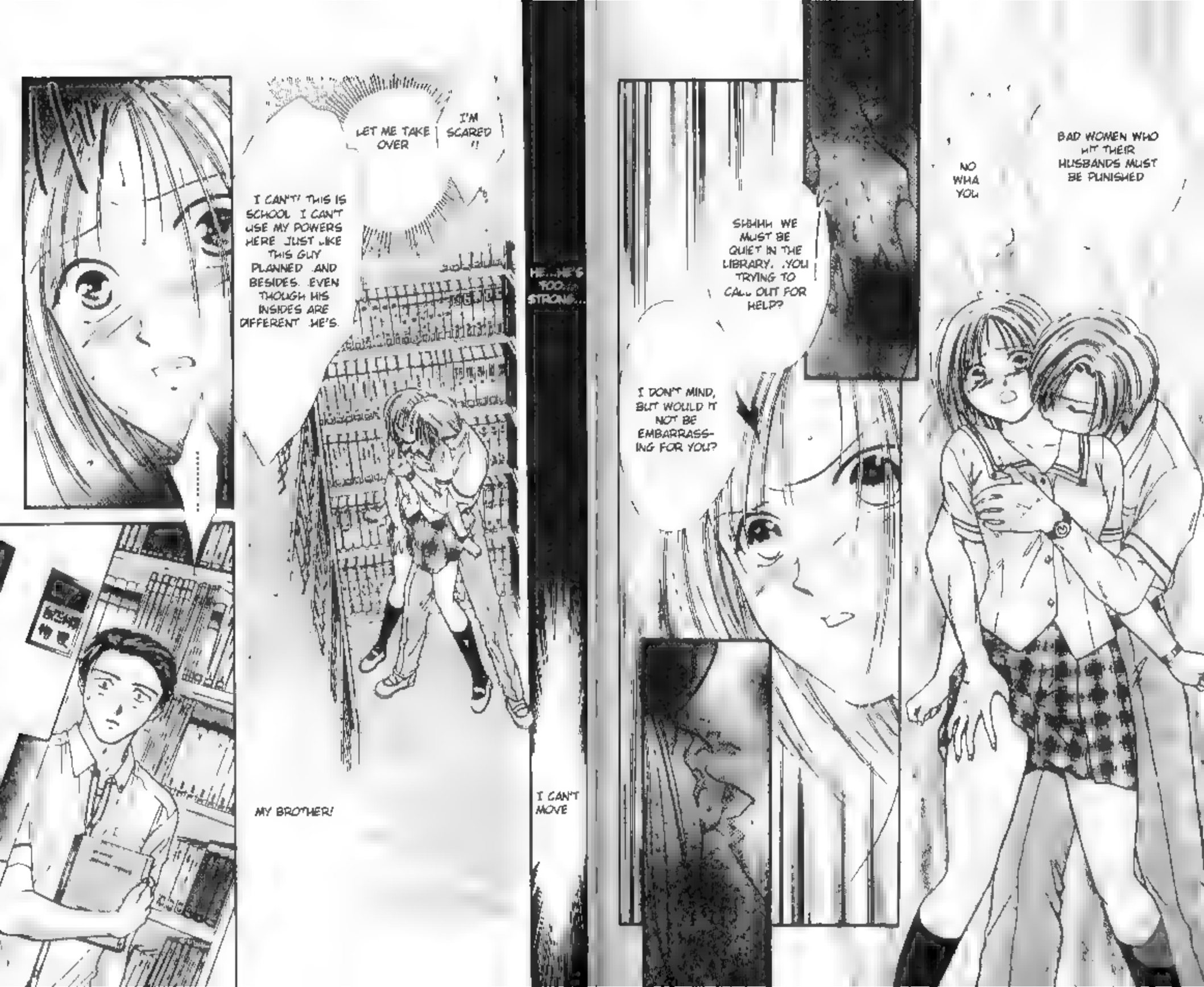
IF...IF HE'S REALLY AKI...
GOOD. !
A.....
YOU FINALLY CHANGED YOUR MIND.

LET'S LIVE TOGETHER AGAIN.
AKI
HUH. ?
WE'VE GONE THROUGH ENOUGH ALREADY
I CAME TO GET YOU BACK
THIS TIME, I'LL BE SURE TO STAY WITH YOU FOREVER.
I'M THE ONLY MAN RIGHT FOR YOU YOU KNOW THAT, RIGHT?
AKI?
IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE TOOYA'S COMING BACK.

YOU'RE STILL... LOOKING FOR THE HAGOROMO, RIGHT? SO I SAID I'D GO, TOO.
HIS HABIT OF FIXING HIS BANGS WHILE HE TALKS. AKI'S.
I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THIS FOR A WHILE,
AND YOU MIGHT GET MAD, BUT.
LET'S NOT DEPEND ON KAGAMI-SAN ANYMORE
IT MUST HAVE BEEN HARD ON YOU, AYA
THANK GOD!!
BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO THROUGH ANY SUFFERING ANYMORE


YOU KNEW ALL ALONG !
WELL?
ALL ALONG

YOU ..YOU DIRTY MAN !! DID YOU THINK THAT BY ACTING LIKE AKI, I'D LISTEN TO YOU?!
IF YOU DON'T APPRECIATE THAT, I'LL REALLY GET MAD.
HEY!...
..NGH.
I THOUGHT YOU WOULD BE GLAD TO SEE "AKI" AGAIN.
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?


LET ME TAKE OVER
I'M SCARED !!
I CAN'T! THIS IS SCHOOL I CAN'T USE MY POWERS HERE JUST LIKE THIS GUY PLANNED AND BESIDES EVEN THOUGH HIS INSIDES ARE DIFFERENT HE'S
HE...HE'S TOO... STRONG...
I CAN'T MOVE
MY BROTHER!
SHHHH WE MUST BE QUIET IN THE LIBRARY. .YOU TRYING TO CALL OUT FOR HELP?
I DON'T MIND, BUT WOULD IT NOT BE EMBARRASS-ING FOR YOU?
NO WHA YOU
BAD WOMEN WHO HIT THEIR HUSBANDS MUST BE PUNISHED

NO. NO
TOOYA.
D..DAMN HIM.!!
SEE? THEY WON'T HELP YOU. THE WEAKLINGS. TOOYA IS NO DIFFERENT HE RAN AWAY, LEAVING YOU BEHIND. POOR THING.
WHAT'RE YOU STARING AT?
GET LOST
UNLESS YOU WANT ME TO BUST YOUR EYES UP, GET LOST

GET THE HELL AWAY FROM AYA!
. IF YOU DON'T, I'LL RIP YOUR WINDPIPE OUT!!
!!
!
WHAT THE FUCK ARE YOU DOING HERE. !!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, AOGIRI? ARE YOU TRYING TO KILL ME?
I'M AYA'S BIG-BROTHER. YOU CAN'T KILL ME
YUUMI ..!

I SHALL HAVE TO RETURN YOU TO HIM NOW. .NOW LET'S JUST LOOK FORWARD TO THE SEQUEL OF WHAT JUST HAPPENED.
!
BUT YOU WILL GIVE HER BACK TO ME
...WE WERE JUST EXCHANGING BOOKS. UNFORTU-NATELY,
HEY?!
..VERY SOON
...HEY! COME BACK!

GET YOUR DAMN HANDS OFF HER. '
EVEN IF YOU REALLY WERE AKI. .IF THAT MEANS I GET TO KILL SHISO, I'LL DO IT!!
YES I CAN!!
.HEY, YOU GUYS! WHAT SEEMS TO BE THE TROUBLE?!
.....

I'LL KILL HIM.
I WON'T LET YOU KILL HIM!!
IS HE REALLY THAT IMPORTANT TO YOU? ..
THEN LET'S SEE YOU TRY AND PROTECT HIM. IF YOU REALLY CAN!

IT COULDN'T BE
WAIT!!
COULDN'T BE...
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, MISTER! WHY ARE YOU HOLDING CHOPSTICKS? ARE YOU WITH THE COOKING CLUB?!
HUH?
YOU YOU DIDN'T JUST YUUK. ?!
I CAME HERE ALL THE WAY TO GET YOU ..I FIGURED I MIGHT AS WELL SEARCH FOR THE HAGOROMO IN THE MEANTIME. BUT THERE ARE MANY MEN IN YOUR LIFE . I SHALL NOT LET THERE BE ANYONE EXCEPT ME
I SHALL DESTROY HIM.

HE WASN'T JUST HOLDING A GRUDGE AGAINST TOOYA...
YOU ARE MY WOMAN.
I SHALL DESTROY YUUHI.
BUT ALL THE MEN WHO GET CLOSE TO ME
AYA!
DON'T LET HIM BOTHER YOU! AND ANYWAY, DON'T TRY TO DO ANYTHING ON YOUR OWN!
TRY AND PROTECT HIM IF YOU CAN
THERE'RE A LOT OF PEOPLE AT SCHOOL. IF YOU DO SOMETHING TOO HASTY, EVEN HE WILL BE FORCED TO LEAVE
DON'T CALL HIM "SAN"!! HE EVEN TRIED TO RAPE AYA AT SCHOOL!! THE SON OF A BITCH!
AS USUAL, HER FACE BRINGS NO SERIOUSNESS TO THE STORY
NOW, NOW
WHAT?
SHISO-SAN IS AT YOUR SCHOOL?!
.....

I'LL PROTECT YOU, OKAY!
BUT, YUUHI.. HE HAS SUPER-NATURAL POWERS!
WHAT'S SO BIG ABOUT THAT?! YOU THINK I'M GONNA LET HIM TOUCH YOU AGAIN?!!
I WON'T
BUT THAT WON'T WORK THE ONE SHISO'S AFTER RIGHT NOW IS YUUHI WHAT SHOULD I DO. TOOYA? WHAT SHOULD I DO?
THANKS, YUUHI.
!
BUT YUUHI-SAN DON'T YOU WANT TO TOUCH HER AND ARE JUST HOLDING BACK?
CAN'T YOU JUST SHUT UP?!
DON'T LOOK AT HIM.
LET'S GO.
O..OKAY. THIS'S BAD..
I'M FINE!
YOU BE CAREFUL, TOO!

AH P.E THAT'S YUUHI'S CLASS. LOOKS HOT OUT THERE
WHICH IS WHY THIS
IT'S COMBINED WITH THE 5TH CLASS?!
YEAH. I HEARD ABOUT IT, TOO!
I'VE GOTTA DO SOMETHING...
YEAH YEAH A GUY FROM THE 7TH CLASS WALKED IN ON THEM.
AND THIS MORNING SHE WAS CUDDLING WITH ANOTHER GUY
SHE'S SURE PRETTY CUTE
IT WAS IN THE LIBRARY OR
AYA?
IT'LL BE LIKE THIS EVERYDAY THIS'S NO PLACE TO LOOK FOR THE HAGOROMO...
2ND YEAR, 2ND CLASS

OH, SORRY!
WHAT'S WRONG!
AOGIRI?!

HEY
O—H, I DIDN'T KNOW YOU COULD PLAY SOCCER? OH, BUT YOU'RE A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT, HUH.

. .I CAN PLAY AS WELL AS MIKAGE AKI CAN. .

MIKAGE, WOULD YOU LIKE TO READ THIS PASSAGE? IF SO, THEN OPEN TO PAGE 43!
UH, YEAH
I. IN THE FUTURE WORLD WILL ALSO BE VOWS. AND DARKNESS.
WATCH OUT, YUUHI!

ARE YOU OKAY? YOU'RE BLEEDING DID YOU HURT YOUR ARM?
WW
AOGIRIIII DID SOMETHING HAPPEN AGAIN?
SON OF A.
!
AOGIRIIIII, COME ON, LET'S GO TO THE NURSE'S OFFICE
.....!!
NO, I THINK.

WO-WO-WOMEN IN MIHON IN-IN-IN-GOT HEAVIER-ER-ER
WHAT ARE YOU, A SCRATCHED CD?
YEAH.
HEY HE'S BLEED-ING!
I JUST GOT CARRIED AWAY. SORRY! ARE YOU OKAY?

OW !!
AOGIRI! WHAT'S WRONG!!
WHAT'S THAT?
YUUHI?!
SENSEI! HE'S BROKEN HIS RIGHT ARM!
HANG IN THERE, KID! LET'S TAKE YOU TO THE NURSE'S OFFICE

AHHH!!
THAT AN AMBULANCE WOULD BE MORE FITTING

YUUHI, ARE YOU OKAY?!
HEY, HEY! YOU! WHAT CLASS ARE YOU.
AYA
HE BROKE MY ARM. THAT REALLY WASN'T THE STRENGTH OF A HUMAN !!
!!
HEY! STOP THAT!
I'M SORRY
I'M SORRY....
!!
HEY, MIKAGE! WHERE'RE YOU GOING?!
CLASS IS STILL IN SESSION!
NURSE'S OFFICE
YUUHI!!

2ND YEAR, 5TH CLASS.
I KINDA WANNA HAVE MY OWN RESTARAUNT WHEN I GROW UP
LEMME TALK TO YOU FOR A SEC!!
YEAH YUP, A SEVERE BROKEN RIGHT ARM!! IT'LL TAKE 2 MONTHS TO HEAL! LIKE I SAID I BROKE IT IN P.E.!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY THAT MUCH ABOUT IT, NEE-SAN.
IT HURTS.
BUT I FEEL GOOD NOW.
IF YOU COMPARE THE TWO,
HIS RIGHT ARM IS DEFINITELY THE IMPORTANT ONE!
BUT AT LEAST HE'S STILL DOING OKAY! BECAUSE YUUHI-SAN WANT'S TO BE A CHEF WHEN HE GROWS UP!
YEAH, I'M FINE!

!!
YUUHI IS!!
IT LOOKS AS THOUGH YOU AND AOGIRI SURE GET ALONG WELL. DID YOU SLEEP WITH HIM, TOO?
ENCOURAGING ME WE'D SOMETIMES FIGHT, SOMETIMES SMILE AT EACH OTHER!
YUUHI IS A GUY WHO HAS HELPED ME OUT EVER SINCE I MET HIM! HE'S ALWAYS BEEN BY MY SIDE.
EVEN THOUGH I COULDN'T RETURN HIS FEELINGS. HE FELL IN LOVE WITH ME..
JUST LIKE A BROTHER. HE'S ALWAYS SUPPORTED ME!!
HOWEVER, SCHOOLS SURE ARE INTERESTING PLACES.
THE DOCTOR SAID THAT YUUHI'S ARM WOULD TAKE 2 MONTHS TO HEAL!!
HERE I FOUND THIS IN MY DESK THIS MORNING WITH A LETTER.
ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME!!
"IF YOU WEAR THIS BRACELET, I'LL BE VERY HAPPY". THERE ARE MANY KINDS OF FEMALES AT THIS SCHOOL.
FEMALES?
BUT THE ONLY WOMAN IS YOU
!!

TH-THAT CAN'T REACH HIM!!
ARE YOU SURE?
!!
THAT'S A PROBLEM. I WONDER WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF I WERE TO THROW THIS CRUSHED BRACELET AT HIM?
SHALL I JUST FORGET ABOUT HIS BEING WITH YOU AND END HIS LIFE IN ONE SWING?
IF I HIT MY TARGET, MAYBE IT'LL BE A FRACTURED SKULL THIS TIME?
NO.
HE'S MY FRIEND!! HE'S THE BEST FRIEND I HAVE IN THIS WORLD!!
SO IF YOU DO ANYTHING TO HIM, I--
LOOK AT THAT WINDOW
YOU CAN EASILY SEE THE 6TH CLASS FROM HERE, HUH. AOGIRI'S NEAR THE WINDOW

HOLY SHIT! WHERE'D THIS COME FROM?!
STOP IT
I'LL DO WHAT YOU SAY JUST DON'T HURT YUUKI.
I HAD NOT ORIGINALLY PLANNED ON HANDLING THINGS THIS WAY.
BUT YOU ARE MY WOMAN

DON'T DO IIIIIIT

WHAT? WHY'RE YOU BRINGING TOOYA INTO THIS. YOU DON'T HAVE THE KIND OF POWER HE DOES.
"I'M THE ONE"?! I'M OKAY COME ON. AT LEAST WHILE TOOYA'S GONE
BESIDES, EVEN IF YOU WERE THERE, HOW WOULD YOU HELP ME WITH YOUR BROKEN ARM?
I THOUGHT SO EVEN BEFORE YOU BROKE YOUR ARM, BUT YOU DON'T STAND A CHANCE AGAINST SHISO
YEAH !! THAT MIGHT BE TRUE, BUT WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU, AYA?
KINDA LIKE I'M THE ONE WHO HAS TO BE WORRIED ABOUT YOU NOW
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ME...
HEY, STOP ACTING SO NOBLE

AYA!!
I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU! I JUST HEARD SOMETHING ABOUT A WINDOW BEING SMASHED ON THE FIRST FLOOR! DIDN'T I TELL YOU? IF YOU'RE GOONA LEAVE YOUR CLASS-ROOM, TELL ME FIRST! AT LEAST PUT YOUR CELL-PHONE ON VIBRATE!
I'M FINE
AYA.

YOU WERE LETTING ME STAY IN YOUR HOUSE, SO I COULDN'T SAY THIS BEFORE, BUT....ALL YOU REALLY WANT FROM ME IS SEX, RIGHT?
A---H, IF I CHANGE INTO CERES, I'M THE ONE WHO'S STRONGER.....WHY DON'T YOU JUST REST THIS ONE OUT! I'LL LOOK FOR THE HAGOROMO MYSELF.
DID YOU MEAN EVERYTHING YOU SAID....?!
I....
A BURDEN?
WAS I JUST A BURDEN TO YOU ALL ALONG?!

YOU WERE SO PATHETIC IN THE NURSE'S OFFICE, TOO! YOU LET YOURSELF GET HURT SO EASILY...
YOU THINK YOU CAN BE TOOYA'S REPLACEMENT? YOU MAY THINK YOU ARE, BUT IN REALITY, YOU'RE NOT.
...IS THIS...WHY YOU'VE BEEN.... AVOIDING ME?...
I ALREADY KNOW THAT! I DON'T MIND THAT YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH ME, BUT....YOU'RE A LITTLE PUSHY. YOU'VE TRIED TO GET ME SO MANY TIMES BEFORE...
WELL, I THOUGHT TO MYSELF THAT I MIGHT BE CAUSING TROUBLE, BUT...

SORRY ABOUT THAT!!
BUT THAT'S ONLY BECUASE UNLIKE YOU, I'M A "NORMAL HUMAN"!!
YUUHI...
YUU...HI...

YOU'RE "USELESS".
....FI... NE....I GUESS...
I CAN'T HELP BEING "USELESS"...

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渡瀨悠宇

WATASE Yuu